

SUNDAY
MARCH 30, 1997



3/30/97

Easter sermon

Shoreline Park Baptist Church's special Easter Sunday sermon will be titled "Gone, Never to Return - No Hope?" There will be no evening services to allow those to attend the "Easter Musical-Sundown Service" at the MS Coast Convention Center at 7 p.m.

Late
register

The Sea Coast Echo

VOL. 106, NO. 26

BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

SINGLE COPY 50 CENTS

TWO SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

'Heart' returns pastor to Coast

BY BETSY GAGNET

Tragedy sent him away, but his heart brought him back to the community where he grew up.

After 35 years, Reverend Donald Peters has returned to his roots to run the church started in 1908 by his grandmother, Josephine Garrett, and great grandmother, Lizzie Robertson.

Peters is the pastor of St. Rock United Methodist Church on Herlihy Street in Waveland.

what Peters called a "strong congregation" with its roots tied closely to the Peters family.

"It was basically a family church, most members were family," he said.

However, everything was to change.

In October of 1958, Peters, then 18, tragically lost his parents, two grandparents and an aunt and uncle in a car accident which occurred at the intersection of Nicholson

"The young people have lost sight of where they need to be going...They hang on corners...The last place they go is church...Black youth are prey for drugs simply because there are standards in employment that some black youth can't reach..."

Reverend Donald Peters



Returning home

Pastor Donald Peters and his wife Irma stand in front of the pulpit of the St. Rock United Methodist Church in Waveland. Peters' family founded the church in 1908. (Echo staff photo by Betsy Gagnet)

Mrs. Johnny Saucier.

"I felt everything was taken from me and I was alone," Peters said. "I wanted to get married."

Although the two had planned to marry, Irma Peters admits it came sooner than

expected.

"We were going to get married, but I don't know if it would have been December," she said.

Soon thereafter the two moved to New York to join Peters' sister, Gladys Peters

Mingo, who had moved there with her husband.

Peters said moving to New York "was a big change."

"It was like the whole world opened up," he explained.

PASTOR—PAGE 7A

Amtrak to make final run

BY ED LEPOMA

The little train that many thought could, didn't, so Amtrak officials announced the Gulf Coast Limited will end a nine-month run this weekend.

The eastbound train will leave New Orleans for the last time at 5:45 p.m. today, and the westbound Gulf Coast Limited will depart Mobile for the last time on Monday.

Almost to the end, officials representing the three states

that make up the Southern Rapid Rail Transit Commission (SRRTC) had remained hopeful that an agreement reached in principle at a meeting in Mobile March 21 would have won another reprieve for the train. They petitioned top Congressional leaders from Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana to ask Amtrak to reconsider.

In the end, Amtrak's overall financial problems and unsta-

ble ridership on the Gulf Coast Limited combined to bring about the demise of daily rail service along the Gulf Coast.

From its Chicago headquarters, Amtrak announced the discontinuance of the Gulf Coast Limited, but noted service on the route will continue to be maintained three days a week. Amtrak's westbound Sunset Limited departs Mobile for New Orleans and other points on Mondays, Wednes-

days and Saturdays. The eastbound Sunset Limited departs New Orleans for Mobile and other intermediate points on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.

The transcontinental Sunset Limited operates between Los Angeles and Sanford, Florida, via Jacksonville.

With a pledge of \$185,000 from the three states, Amtrak and the SRRTC instituted the daily rail passenger service on

a 90-day demonstration basis on June 28, 1996.

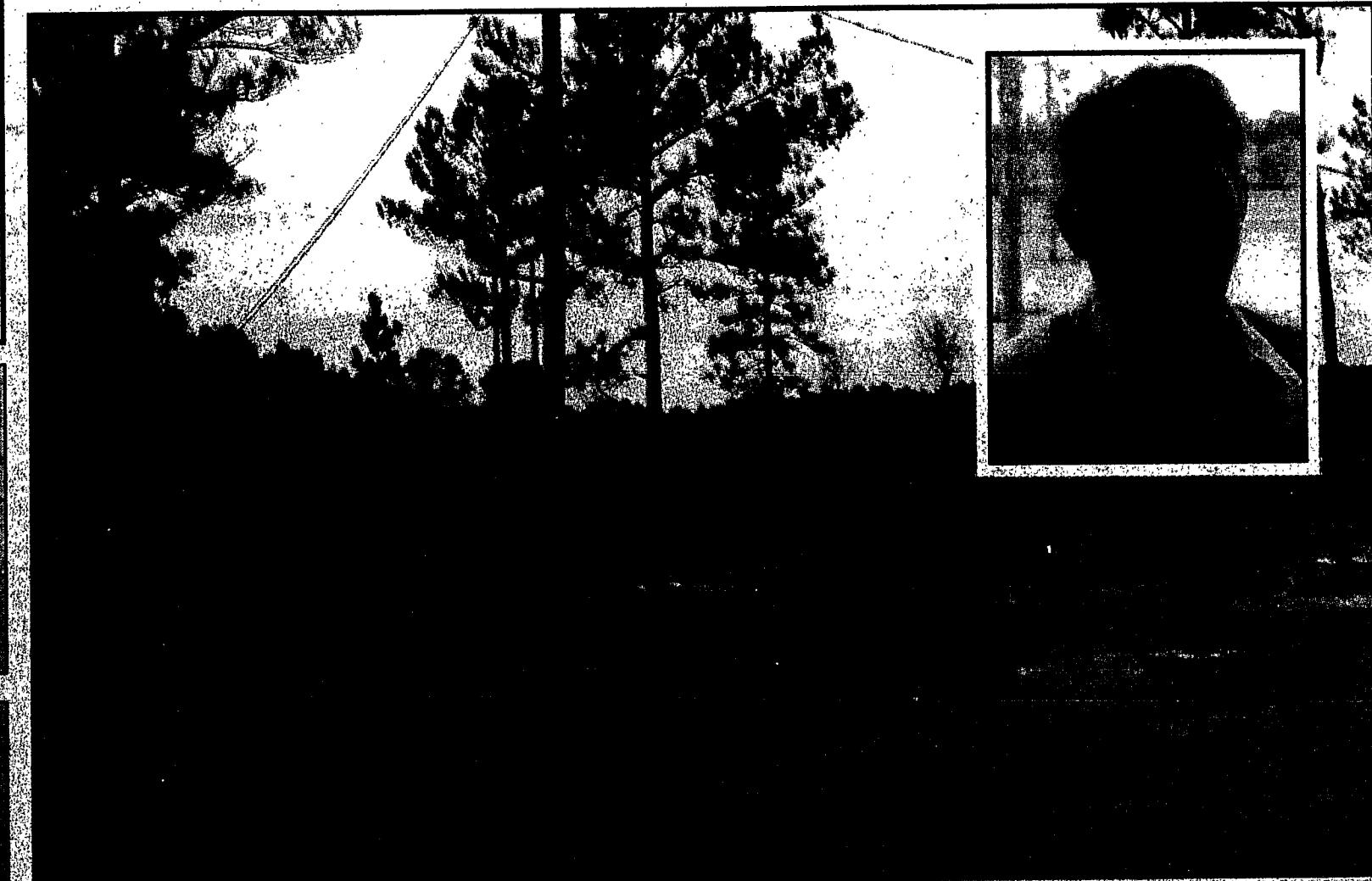
After that initial funding ran out, Congressional leaders were able to get \$1.5 million set aside in the general appropriations bill to allow the train to run another six months.

An Amtrak official said several discussions were held with representatives from all three states, but only Louisiana had

AMTRAK—PAGE 7A

TIDES

Mon.	4:48 p.	5:38 a.
Tue.	5:56 p.	4:38 a.
Wed.	7:11 p.	5:32 a.
Thur.	8:33 p.	6:18 a.
Fri.	10:07 p.	6:53 a.
Sat.	12:22 p.	7:04 a.
		5:24 p.



Gemelli's revival fairgrounds

Gemelli's revival fairgrounds will officially open this Friday, March 28, with a performance by the Kentucky Headhunters and LeAnn Rimes. The fairgrounds are located on Highway 90 in Hancock County. The fair will run through Sunday, March 30. For more information, including Sawyers' performance, see story and schedule on page 3A. (Echo staff photo by Richard Mack)

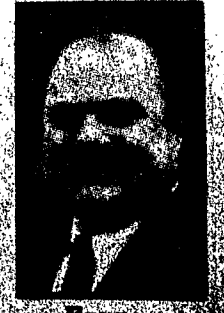
Favre seeks third term

Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Favre has announced that he will seek his third term as mayor in the May 6 primary election. Favre, a certified public accountant, has served as mayor of the City of Bay St. Louis since July of 1989. Prior to being elected mayor, Favre served as Bay St. Louis city clerk for eight years.

"The City of Bay St. Louis has become the most desirable place to live on the Mississippi Coast," Favre stated, "and the active partnership between our employees and our citizens has caused this reputation to grow."

"Our city is growing dramatically."

FAVRE—PAGE 7A



OBITUARIES

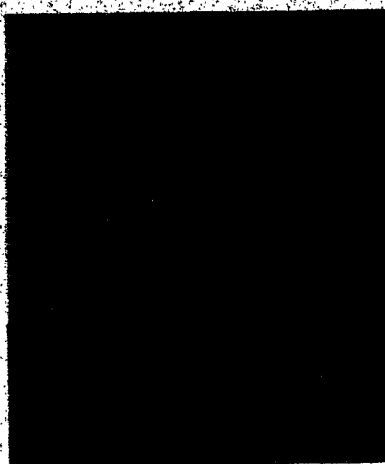
O. E. BATSON JR.
GARY D. DOBSON
KATHRYN S. HORNUFF
SHIRLEY A. KENNEDY
ZORA MALLEY
HELEN A. SPITZMILLER
ALCIDE A. STIGLET

O. E. BATSON JR.
 O. E. "Dusty" Batson Jr., 63, died Wednesday, March 26, 1997, in Wiggins.
 Mr. Batson was a World War II Army Air Corps veteran and retired as a structural engineer with NASA. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Wiggins and a member of VFW Cecil R. Rodlock Post 5531 in Pass Christian. He was a member of Wiggins Masonic Lodge 481.
 He was preceded in death by a brother, James C. Batson; and a sister, Mildred Batson McHenry.
 Survivors include a brother, Shirley Batson of Grand Bay, Ala.; and a sister, Virginia Ross of Brandon.

Services were conducted Friday at Moore Funeral Home in Wiggins. Burial was in Thomson Price Cemetery in Wiggins.

GARY D. DOBSON
 Gary David Dobson, 51, of Silsbee, Texas, died Tuesday, March 25, 1997, in Silsbee.
 Mr. Dobson was a native of New Orleans and lived in Silsbee the past 21 years. He was a field engineer for N.C.R. was an Army veteran of the Vietnam war.
 Survivors include his mother, Marjorie B. Dobson Thomson of Waveland; and his stepfather, Sidney L. Thomson of Waveland; a brother, Sidney Collins Dobson of Silsbee; and stepisters, Kay Williams of Waveland and Lyane McEvoy of Belvidere, Ill.
 Visitation was Friday at R.S. Farmer Funeral Home in Silsbee, followed by services. Burial was in R.S. Farmer Memorial Cemetery.

KATHRYN S. HORNUFF
 Mrs. Kathryn S. Hornuff, 96, of Bay St. Louis, died Friday, March 28, 1997, in Gulfport, Miss.
 Funeral arrangements are incomplete at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.



SHIRLEY A. KENNEDY
 Mrs. Shirley Ann Kennedy, 65, of Waveland, died Saturday, March 22, 1997, in Waveland.
 Mrs. Kennedy was a native of Broken Arrow, Okla.
 She was preceded in death by her parents, Louis Vance and Frons Roberts Pennington Orcutt.

Survivors include her husband, Joe Paul Kennedy of Waveland; and a sister, Opal Grant of Merced, Calif.
 A memorial service was conducted Thursday at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home Chapel in Bay St. Louis.
 The family prefers memorial contributions to the St. Clare Scholarship Fund, Waveland.

ZORA MALLEY
 Mrs. Zora Malley, 84, of Pass Christian, died Wednesday, March 26, 1997, in Gulfport.
 Mrs. Malley was a retired nurse and a member of Faithview Baptist Church in Saucier.
 Survivors include her husband, Aaron Malley of Saucier; three stepdaughters, Jannita Hatten of Perkinston, Laura Malley of Gulfport and Sarah Allen of Saucier; five stepsons, Stevie Malley, Roger Malley, Kyle Malley, all of Pass Christian, Daryel Malley and Dexter Malley, both of Pearl River, La.; a sister, Carrie Schoenewitz of Biloxi; two brothers, Jack Schoenewitz of Saucier and Freddy Schoenewitz of d'Iberville; 14 stepgrandchildren and 10 stepgreat-grandchildren.
 Services were conducted Sa-

turday at Moore Funeral Home in Wiggins. Burial was in Big Level Cemetery in Wiggins.

HELEN A. SPITZMILLER
 Mrs. Helen Ann Spitzmiller, 64, of Bay St. Louis, died Tuesday, March 25, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.
 Mrs. Spitzmiller was a native of Deadwood, S.D.
 She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Spitzmiller; and her parents, Clarence and Helga Peterson Miller.
 Survivors include a son, Patrick Spitzmiller of Bay St. Louis; a daughter, Mrs. Lee E. Parsons of Friendswood, Texas; and two grandchildren.
 A private service will be held at a later date.
 Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

ALCIDE A. STIGLET
 Alcide A. Stiglet, 90, of Kila, died Friday, March 28, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.
 Funeral arrangements are incomplete at McDonald Funeral Home in Piquette.

NetDay at North Bay

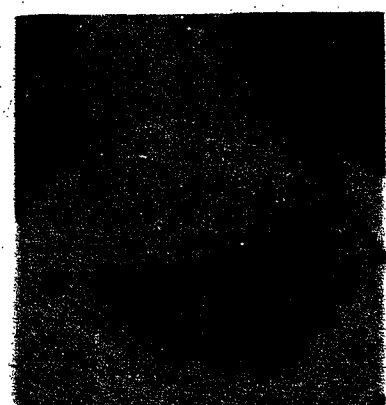
North Bay Elementary is participating in President Clinton's initiative to wire schools for Internet access. The initiative is designed as a cooperative effort between local businesses, schools and parents.
 "We have many corporate sponsors already and would like others to join us," said Kay Covode, spokesman.
 North Bay will hold NetDay

97 April 12.
 "We will run approximately 8,000 feet of wire with the volunteer aid of parents and friends of the school. Technical assistance will be provided by volunteers from Stennis Space Center, and lunch is provided courtesy of local food chains," Covode said.
 For information or to volunteer, call Covode at 467-4757.

Walk For Life April 12

Those interested in personal fitness have a perfect opportunity to help themselves and support one of the Coast's most altruistic agencies. Walk For Life 97, a 5k walk in Biloxi, is a major fund raiser for the South Mississippi AIDS Task Force.
 Walk For Life is a 5k journey along US-90, starting at the Biloxi Lighthouse at Porter Ave. Participants may walk or run the distance west to St. George and then back to the Biloxi Lighthouse for refreshments and entertainment.
 Departure begins at 8 a.m. south of the lighthouse. The event will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Apr. 12. Participants are advised to wear comfortable shoes and clothing. The walk will be held rain or shine.

Proceeds will benefit ongoing services provided by SMATF. For information, sponsorships or how to become involved with SMATF, call the agency at (601) 385-1214.



In Memoriam

In Loving Memory of
KRIANNA MICHELLE DAW
 May 10, 1984-May 12, 1994

Happy Easter, little "Angel," a baby girl too special to forget. Remembered with love, Momma, Daddy, "Sis"ie" Megan, Grandma, Grandpa, Uncle Ronnie, Uncle Ronnie and Family

Bunny to appear

The Easter bunny will greet close to 100 children at 11 a.m. at 616 North Beach Boulevard at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Breath.

Card of Thanks

Operation Wake-Up wishes to extend its heartfelt thanks to you for your support of our third annual Convention, 97 Unity Program ("Ball to the Pole").
 This program included an Easter egg hunt, voter registration drive, and Meet the Candidates that took place Sunday, March 23. Our program was a big success because of you.
 In the future, if Operation Wake-Up is needed in your support, please feel free to call on us. We will be there for you.
 Don't forget to give blood April 22 from 1-5 p.m. at Coast Electric.

Thank you again,
 Operation Wake-Up
 Donna M. Smith Sr.



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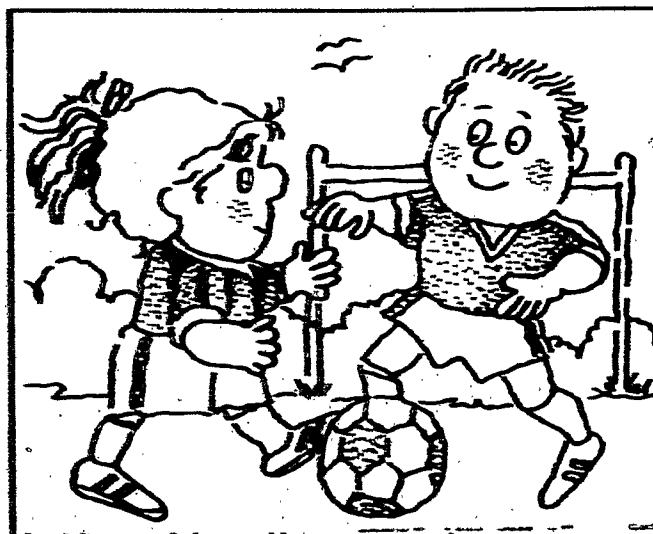
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Waveland board denies Senior Center request

BY RICHARD MEEK

Citing a financially strapped budget, the Waveland Board of Aldermen denied Lora Mederos' petition to help furnish the new Senior Citizen Center in Bay St. Louis.

The aldermen informed Mederos funds were unavailable to help the center. Mederos, who works with seniors and children for the county's Human Resources Agency, said construction on the center is completed, but until some basic furnishings are purchased, it cannot be opened.

The City of Bay St. Louis' donation to the center is in the neighborhood of \$200,000. The county Board of Supervisors recently kicked in an additional \$3,400, matching the amount raised in a community-wide campaign. The supervisors had already donated an extra \$20,000 for capital outlay, in addition to the \$133,000 the board contributed to the agency.

Waveland donates \$5,000 annually to the senior citizen program, but Mederos acknowledged the city was the only local government entity not to contribute to the new center. City officials have instead offered in-kind services, such as landscaping, to the facility.

"I'm very disappointed," Mederos said. "A large number of Waveland's citizens use the facility. They need to do more for their senior citizens. They know that."

Mederos had appeared before the aldermen two weeks prior asking for \$5,000. At the time, the aldermen agreed to analyze at the budget and determine if money was available.

The board adopted a resolution at a meeting on March 4 committing \$7,500 for the center contingent upon the city being able to free up the funds. But Mederos was later informed the money was not available.

"I felt like I could count on them," Mederos said. "I felt like there was a commitment there, even though it was contingent if they could find the money."

Mederos said current funds will allow the center to purchase a stove and a top, essential for final inspection. However, she said for now the center will open with other needs unmet.

The aldermen also met with Bill Johnson of Compton Engi-

neering to discuss the city's plans for sewage lines that extend out to the old Bayou Caddy Jubilee Casino site. Johnson, who is a member of the Hancock County Wastewater District No. 1, informed the aldermen the district is currently attempting to provide sewage hookups to Clermont Harbor and that the district would like to tie into the city-owned lines.

He proposed the city either sell or lease the lines to the district.

"We would like to know your plan for the lines," Johnson said. "Our goal and objective is to clean up the water and provide sewage (lines)."

Waveland Public Utilities Director Steve Landry said one possible solution to accommodate the Clermont Harbor area would be to add a bypass line that would take the sewage on a direct route to the plant located in the central part of the city. The lines from that area currently are routed to a pumping station at Buccaneer Park, which are then tied into lines in the western part of the city.

"Waveland can call the shots," Landry said. "Nothing is free. I would rather see us lease it or charge a fee. I don't want to see you guys give up the lines."

A final decision is still pending.

A dispute also continues to fester between Alderman Jay Fleuriet and the rest of the board, including Mayor John Mason, over spending \$275,000 to pay off a short-term note on a fire truck purchased last year. Fleuriet, with the rest of the aldermen, earlier approved paying off the note with funds generated by a \$1.25 million bond issue.

However, over the past few weeks, Fleuriet has contended the city would actually pay more interest by using the bond money. Fleuriet said his analysis shows the city would pay an additional \$80,000 in interest by using the bond money to pay off the note.

He is proposing using that savings to either pay off some of the bond, or complete paving work on roads and upgrade sewage lines.

City officials have presented figures to the contrary, showing the city would save \$33,000 with early retirement of the note.



Capitol visit

Jeanette, left, and L. J. Breaux recently visited Washington, D.C. during the annual Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Legislative Tour. During the visit to the nation's capital, the Hancock County Farm Bureau members visited with Mississippi senators, representatives and agriculture officials.

Country festival to open fairgrounds

BY ED LEPOMA

Robert Gemelli surveyed the cleared land ahead of him, then looked up at the sky.

"There's nothing we can do about the weather except pray it doesn't rain," said Gemelli. "Everything else is in place."

Gemelli was referring to plans made months in advance for the grand-opening weekend of his Southern Festival Fairgrounds.

The opening concerts are scheduled Saturday, April 5 and Sunday, April 6, with local talent and big-name country western stars in the lineup.

The fairgrounds is located just 10 miles west from the junctions of Mississippi Highways 603 and 43, and convenient to fans expected to come from all along the Mississippi Coast and from nearby Picayune, Slidell and New Orleans.

It was just last September that Gemelli, a retired Kenner policeman, former theater owner and realtor, came before Hancock County supervisors and briefed them on his plans to build the fairgrounds on a 75-acre tract between the Catla-houla and Flat Top communities.

Soon afterwards, he purchased the plot for \$300,000, then crews began clearing the land in October.

Gemelli estimates he has now pumped \$1.2 million into the fairgrounds, providing drainage and sewerage, building a large stage, and 20 eight-by-eight-foot covered food booths. There are also several permanent restrooms dotting the site, but fans are being

asked to bring their own portable seating.

The raised carpeted stage is 40-by-60 feet, and Gemelli said rising country star LeAnn Rimes (who performs on Sunday) demanded it.

"Any smaller, and she said she wouldn't have come," said Gemelli.

Behind the stage is a house that doubles as Gemelli's office, and upstairs are dormitory-style bedrooms where entertainers can freshen up and relax.

The entire fairgrounds is fenced, and Gemelli has set aside 30 acres for parking, and therein lies the potential problem.

The parking lot is unpaved, and could soon turn to knee-deep slush if there is a heavy rain.

But, Gemelli has built it, and he predicts people will come—maybe as many as 35,000 for the two-day event.

"I've heard motels are already filled in Picayune," said Gemelli. And, the festival is being hawked daily over Picayune Radio station WRJW and WKNN in Biloxi, the area's top country radio station. Gemelli said ticketmaster sales have been brisk.

"And, TNN, the nation's country cable television station will be here to tape," said Gemelli.

The day after the concert, Gemelli said he and daughter, Mandy, will begin to plan the next event. Besides country music, Gemelli said he hopes to promote rodeos, gospel events and other entertainment at the fairgrounds.

"We're planning some big things ahead," promised Gemelli. "We want to get Alan Jackson here, but he's booked through the year. But, we're working on some other big names too."

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Gemelli's country lineup

The musical lineup for Gemelli's Country Music Festival, April 5 and April 6.

Saturday
11 a.m.-noon - Boley Creek
12:30-1:45 p.m. - Hank Williams III
2:15-3:30 p.m. - Kentucky Headhunters
4-5:15 p.m. - Wade Hayes
Sunday
11 a.m.-noon - Keith Hoda and the Country Sounds
12:30-1:45 p.m. - Chad Simmons
2:15-3:15 p.m. - LeAnn Rimes
3:45-5 p.m. - Sawyer Brown.

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster or WRJW Radio. Picayune and the charge is \$30 per person for the two days, \$20 for one day. Children under 10 will be admitted free, but must be accompanied by an adult. No food or beverages can be brought into the fairgrounds.

Gemelli Fairgrounds is located 10 miles from the intersections of Mississippi Hwy. 603 and 43. If you're coming off Interstate 10 west, take the Kiln-Waveland Hwy. 603 exit, and head north on 603 to 43. If you're coming from Slidell or New Orleans, take the Picayune exit 4 ramp, then south to Hwy. 43.

Favre to serve no time

Scott Favre will serve no jail time for driving drunk in an accident that cost his friend, Mark Haverty, his life.

Judge Robert H. Walker sentenced Favre to 15 years in prison, with 14 suspended and one under house arrest. He must also pay a \$5,000 fine, court costs and Haverty's funeral costs.

Before a packed courtroom filled with friends and family on Thursday, Favre, brother of Green Bay standout Brett Favre, admitted to driving drunk in the early morning hours of July 20 when he failed to yield at a CSX railroad crossing in Pass Christian. An oncoming train slammed into the car, killing Haverty.

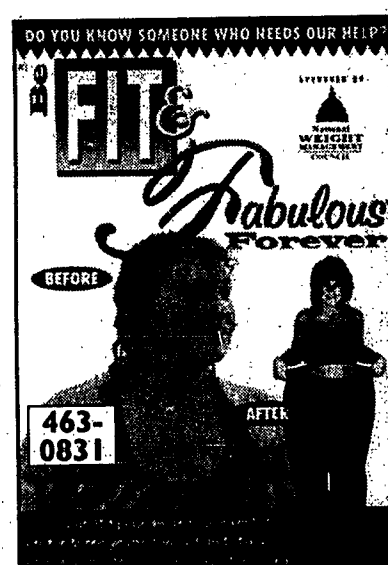
District Attorney Cono Caranna, who suggested the light sentence, said he was relying on the help of Favre's family to keep him sober. Favre, 30, entered an alcohol rehabilitation clinic in Hattiesburg on March 20. He is expected to spend about two months at the facility.

Favre will be on probation for two years after serving his house arrest, and will speak to Hancock County students on the dangers of drinking and driving. If Favre violates terms of his probation or house arrest, which forbids drinking, then he will serve the full prison term.

Belles in Gulfport

Gulfport Little Theatre will present "Belles" by Mark Dunn, a play in two acts and 39 phone calls, on April 4, 5, 11, 12 at 8 p.m. and April 6 at 2 p.m. at the Debra Street Playhouse.

Reservations are strongly recommended. Call 466-7983.



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Chicken pox hitting elementary schools

BY BETSY GAGNET

Several area elementary schools have reported a recent attack of chicken pox hitting especially hard in the kindergarten and first grade classes.

According to local pediatrician Dr. David Fontaine, chicken pox, or Varicella, is a member of the herpes virus family and has an average incubation period of 14-16 days.

The disease is characterized by the outbreak of a rash, or sores, which look like small red dots. Each sore opens and eventually scabs over.

Fontaine explained the disease is most contagious one to two days before the rash appears and shortly thereafter.

Myrna Jordan, principal at Bay Catholic Elementary School, said her school was hit hard in February by the disease.

"The week of the 24th, we had 10 kindergarten students out," she said. "There has been a smattering in other grades, but most of the older children have had them."

Hancock North Central Elementary experienced an outbreak in the fall, according to principal Debbie Moran.

"It was as many as five or six in a class at a time," Moran said. Principal Debbie Cox at Waveland Elementary said her students were hit hard in January and February.

"It started in the kindergarten and went through the school," she said. "We notified the parents so that they were aware of what was going on."

Jeanette White at Gulfview Elementary said the school has not seen many students break out with chicken pox so far this year.

"We have had worse years," White said. "My guess is we'll get hit hard later on."

Fontaine said most children handle the disease well.

He cautioned that before they heal, the open sores are opportunities for infection.

If not treated properly a child could start off with a viral infection, the chicken pox, and end up with a bacterial infection on top of that if the sores become infected, Fontaine explained.

He recommends washing with a deodorant soap to reduce the chance of infection.

Parents should contact their child's pediatrician if they think their child has chicken pox.

A vaccine is now available for chicken pox which Fontaine said is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Additionally, he said Zovirax is now an indicated drug for treating chicken pox.

He cautioned that while Zovirax may decrease the severity of the illness and possibly shorten the duration, it will not get rid of it.

Easter thoughts

There is a wonderful
sparkle of spring in the air
There is a feeling of promise
and hope everywhere
May springtime surround
you with joys great and small
and bring you your
loveliest Easter of all!
Margaret Williamson

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"CUEVAS" QUOTES

By Ellis C. Cuevas

There are many sad folks along the Coast because of the discontinuance of the Gulf Coast Limited scheduled after Monday.

Jane, my wife, is among those folks who really enjoyed riding the train to the city.

As Jane says, "The government can give millions of dollars to foreign countries, many of which are not our allies, yet they cannot help keep rail service running here at home."

Those of us a bit up in age can remember how important railroads were to development of this great nation.

I realize times have changed, yet there should also be some loyalty.

I, along with others, hope the train's schedule will be resumed in the very near future.

I had an interesting breakfast Friday morning with our Congressman Gene Taylor from Bay St. Louis.

It was good to sit down and chat with Gene, whom I have known before he was a Bay St. Louis Councilman, State Senator and United States Congressman.

As always, Gene takes his job very seriously and spends time doing his "homework" on issues faced in Washington.

During the past few days there has been a break in Washington, but Gene still has managed to stay pretty busy meeting with local officials and others about many of our problems nationally and locally.

On Monday he will hold a town meeting in Vancleave at Vancleave High, 6 to 7:30 p.m. He has held several others already this year and plans on having one in each county in his district this year.

This is one way Congressman Taylor keeps in touch with residents, and it gives residents an opportunity to express their concerns and ask whatever questions are on their minds.

Anyway, on the Washington scene there are really several big items on the agenda to be addressed by the 105th Congress, and not much has been done thus far, Gene reports.

It looks like many of the elected officials in Washington are like many of us, who wait until the last minute to work and file our income taxes.

I am sure glad that Gene is not in the class.

Gene, keep up doing the good work in Washington.

FROM THE STATE AUDITOR

Qs & As
By Phil Bryant

COUNTIES

Q Must the clerk of the board of the board of supervisors publish a synopsis of the annual audit report in a form prescribed by the State Auditor?

A Yes. (Section 7-7-221)

Q May a public official or employee use a public vehicle for private use to transport children to and from school?

A No. Personal use of any government-owned vehicle is prohibited.

Q Does the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges have authority to convey to the community and junior colleges for no consideration or nominal consideration, mobile learning lab units, purchased under the Workforce and Education Act of 1994 and carried on its inventory?

A Yes. (Attorney General's

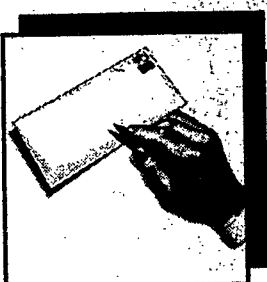
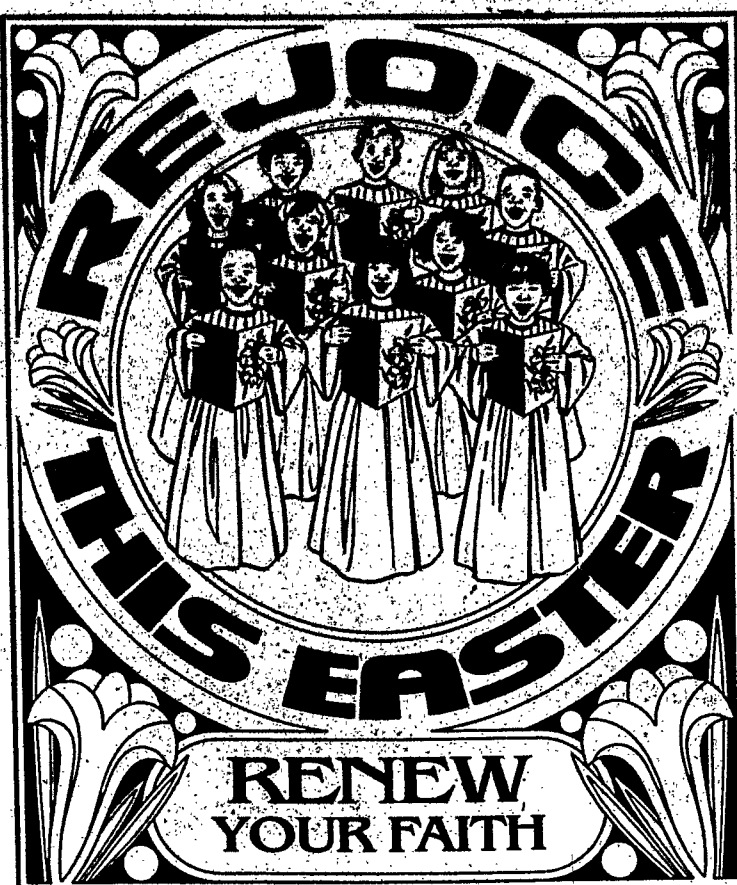
opinion to Ray dated Jan. 24, 1997)

Q May a county purchase a blanket bond instead of individual bonds for public employees required to be bonded?

A Counties may purchase blanket bonds for public employees required to have bonds unless a statute requires an individual bond for a particular position. (Attorney General's opinion to Meadows dated Jan. 24, 1997)

Q May a county allow residents in unincorporated areas to elect not to use the county garbage collection system?

A Yes. The Board of Supervisors may adopt an order to allow residents in unincorporated areas to "opt out" of the county garbage collection system provided a timely application is made and the residents dispose of their garbage in a lawful



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students seek information on state of Mississippi

Dear Readers,

Hi! My name is Jason Thraen, and I'm a fifth grade student from West Ridge Elementary School in Harlan, Iowa.

Our class is studying geography and history of the United States of America.

We would appreciate it if you would send us a postcard,

souvenir, map or a paper article about your state, so we can learn more about our country. I appreciate your time. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jason Thraen
West Ridge Elem. School
1401 19th Street
Harlan, Iowa 51537

'Dixie' Division director sad about bill failure

Dear Editor:

J. P. Compretta, Committee Chairman of Transportation, House of Representatives, yielded to black representatives and failed to bring the "Dixie" Division request to name I-20 the 31st Infantry "Dixie" Division Memorial Highway to the committee floor for a vote. The bill had already been voted out of the Senate approved, and all it needed was to reach the floor of the House Committee and it may have been approved.

It's a sad day in Mississippi when we can't get a bill as this passed to honor our veterans who have made the supreme sacrifice with their lives and the

families of these men who also suffered with the loss.

The 31st Infantry "Dixie" Division lost over 400 men in combat during WWII alone. The "Dixie" Division was very popular during WWI. That is how we got our name "Dixie" Division, because we were from the southern part of the United States.

My suggestion to anyone who is offended by the word "Dixie" should pack their bags and move from "Dixie."

Sincerely,
Guy R. Green Jr.
Executive Director
31st Infantry "Dixie"
Division Association

ASK THE V.A.

By Donald Mauffray
CVSO

Changes due in VA health-care

Two years ago VA began transforming the veterans health-care system. VA shifted from a system of individual medical centers and clinics focused on inpatient care to a fully integrated system of healthcare. Today, 22 management hubs covering defined geographical areas called Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) administer the new patient-centered approach to delivering VA health care.

The changes in health-care delivery, geographic redistribution of veterans, and tighter budgets required a review of how VA distributes its resources to make sure eligible veterans receive appropriate care. The Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation (VERA) model was developed pursuant to the requirements of Section 429 of Public Law 104-204, the VA/HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriation Act for Fiscal Year 1997.

Past VA medical care allocation systems created funding imbalances across the country and were too complex. This year, \$1.2 billion was spent in excess of the budget in over-funded facilities in certain areas of the country and thus, limited access and the level of service to veterans who got care from under-funded facilities. The VERA model

will help make sure equitable access to care is available to all eligible veterans.

VA predicts that no veteran currently receiving VA care will be denied care as a result of this action. Networks with decreasing funds will achieve their budget targets by becoming more efficient.

VERA allocates funds to networks based primarily on a national price for two different types of patients — those with routine health-care needs and those with special and generally long-term health-care needs that are relatively expensive. The new allocation system supports VA's goals of:

1. treating the greatest number of veterans who have the highest priority for health care
2. allocating funds equitably based on the number of veterans having the highest priority for health care
3. creating a predictable resource allocation system
4. aligning resource allocation policies to the best practices in health care

The shifting of funds will begin in April 1997 (halfway through the fiscal year) and will take place over a three-year period.

The most any network will be able to lose is 10 percent of its budget. The VERA model

FROM THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE

By State Senator
Scottie Cuevas



Conference committees work on bill compromises

Senate conference-committee work took center-stage into the weekend as the 1997 Legislative Session moved within days of its April 6 "sine die" or adjournment.

Nearly three months of bill drafting, committee hearings and floor debates are coming down to conference-committee negotiations between Senators and Representatives on the several hundred bills surviving legislative deadlines.

However, the fruits of our labor could be seen last week as dozens of bills were signed into law by the Governor. Among them were:

— Pesticide regulations and penalties, S.B. 2637. Spurred by the recent outbreak of illegal pesticide use, this law revises procedures and sets tougher penalties for persons who violate them.

— Statewide voter registration roll through the Secretary of State's Office, H.B. 1470. A centralized, computerized list will give a more accurate picture of each county's voter registration and provide a statewide bank of information enabling officials to monitor elections and deter potential voter fraud.

— Standardized Youth Court procedures, S.B. 2510. This bill establishes standard youth court procedures and reporting, as well as creates a statewide case tracking system.

— Charitable solicitations by telephone, S.B. 2563. Under this new law, you can require a professional fund-raiser to tell you how the money will be used, and how much of your donation is actually going for services. Telephone solicitors also are limited to calling between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Saturdays only.

— Medicaid home- and community-based services, S.B. 2213. This bill expands these services statewide to the extent that funds are provided by the Legislature.

— New Home Warranty Act, H.B. 1142. This new consumer protection law sets standards to warranty new-home construction across a period of years and to ensure that problems which occur because of poor construction will be corrected by contractors.

— Telemedicine, S.B. 2389.

In this "Age of Computers," Mississippi has moved to define "telemedicine" and to require state licensure for physicians who directly practice medicine here from long-distance, such as by telephone or video connections.

Senate committees also met last week to make recommendations to the full Senate on the Governor's nominations to various boards and commissions.

OTHERS SIGNED

Among other bills signed into law last week were those to revise Mississippi's sex-offender registration law to conform with federal rules (S.B. 2800); to direct the Department of Corrections to contract for regional jail facilities in a number of counties (S.B. 2879); to continue a statewide dyslexia pilot program in schools (H.B. 351); and to prohibit and revise penalties for the false reporting of crimes by telephone (H.B. 412).

While they may not have made headlines, other bills gaining the Governor's signature will designate the red fox as one of our state mammals (H.B. 673); prohibit clearing of timber on state-owned land until after a public hearing (H.B. 908); establish a birth-defects registry through the State Department of Health (H.B. 913); and prohibit harassment of guide dogs (S.B. 2094).

Appropriations and revenue bills conference reports — compromises on differences between the Senate and House — were due by 8 p.m. Saturday, March 29. Monday, March 31 is the deadline for final adoption of those reports, as well as for filing conference reports on general bills and constitutional amendments.

Although most of our work time was spent in meetings, the Senate welcomed and commended a number of visitors to the State Capitol. Among them was Dr. Don L. Durham of the Stennis Space Center in Hancock County.

During the Legislative Session, Sen. Cuevas can be reached by calling 601-359-3770 or by writing to: Mississippi Senate, P.O. Box 1018, Jackson MS 39215.

FROM THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE

By Representative
Dirk Dedeaux



\$3 million approved for Stennis

The House of Representatives has approved SB 3194 which will give \$3 million to Stennis space center for the development of an advanced learning complex.

The \$3 million, which will come from state bonds, is matching fund money. The state put up \$3 million in funds, and the federal government will match this with \$7 million plus provide the location which is valued at \$4.5 million. The total project will be valued at \$14.5 million.

SB 3194, which was authored by Senator Scottie Cuevas and supported by me, will enable a center of higher learning to be built at Stennis. The center will include an Institute for Marine Sciences, that will be administered by the University of Southern Mississippi, and a Center for Air/Sea Technology, which will be administered by Mississippi State University.

Center tremendously by creating more high-paying jobs and opening up the university presence at the center.

The long-term effect of improving the resources and facilities at Stennis will increase its importance to the space program. This is vital to keeping the jobs at Space Center by reinforcing it as a crucial facility for NASA's operation.

Another benefit of the expansion will be the educational aspect. Employees of Stennis will be able to take advantage of further education in naval research.

Also, more engineering students from Mississippi will be able to become qualified in the kind of programs and engineering jobs that are in demand at Stennis. We should make an effort to train our local people for the jobs that are available at Stennis.

The Sea Coast Echo

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100th Year of Publication

Member of the Mississippi Press Association, NNA, and the National Newspaper Association.

We recommend this newspaper to all who are interested in the news of the Gulf Coast.

REFLECTIONS ON LIFE

By Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD

"Hundreds of thousands of people are dying from smoking every year," the U.S. Surgeon General told us recently. His was the latest in a barrage of hot blasts on the burning issue of smoking.

Predictably, the tobacco companies have come out swinging, denying the toxicity of nicotine and the deadliness of its addiction. Of course, they are doing no more than air line, automotive and other companies do when under fire over their products.

With the whole country getting fired up about smoking, it makes one wonder why the same burning zeal is not ap-

plied to other health causes of even greater urgency.

So what's of greater urgency than nicotine and other drugs? Food, believe it or not. Cooked food, raw food, depending on the point of attack. I am aware that this mounts to opening a can of worms—pardon the context—but here goes.

First, there is growing evidence that, even beginning at 120 degrees, cooking destroys some 83 percent of the vitamins in food, all the enzymes, and it changes minerals such as calcium from organic into inorganic.

Having only 17 percent of vitamins available for our body

speaks for itself very negatively. Enzymes are responsible for digestion, and the body robs itself of enzymes if they are not present in food. Our body cannot assimilate inorganic minerals.

In baseball, that would be a shutout. Naturally, most forms of cooking exceed by far the 120 degrees of vitamin- and enzyme-killing heat. So most cooking pitches regular shutouts to our body, denying it access to vitamins, enzymes and minerals.

Adding insult to injury, pasteurization takes place at 160 degrees (ultra pasteurization at 1,000), killing all vita-

mins and converting calcium from organic to inorganic, which scratches milk products as a vitamin and calcium source.

Alas, even the much-touted fresh juices are almost invariably made from concentrate which is made by boiling. At 212 degrees, such concentrate is even deadlier than milk. If you wish the benefits of juice, make sure it is freshly squeezed.

Our body cells are partially starved when fed such a fare. At best, they regenerate imperfectly using this defective fuel for rebuilding. The result is premature aging of bone, skin, muscles, hair, veins and arteries, all of which are made of cells.

Young bodies do reasonably well not because of but in spite of the cooked, dead fuel they are receiving through food and drink. As we age, our bodies fare less well with the defective fuel, because they have been weakened by abuse and time.

Raw vegetables, raw fruit and raw juices feed live, untainted fuel to our cells, enabling them to rebuild well, to fortify our immune system, to reverse most cancers, heart disease, diabetes, bone deterioration, hypertension and hypoglycemia.

Add to this that animal products (meat, seafood, milk) cause 50 percent of our deaths through heart disease, 33 percent through cancer and eight percent through diabetes: 91 percent.

While many doctors and even nutritionists have a hard time swallowing this raw food regimen, this discussion must be blown wide open. The health of us all lies in the balance.

Cooked food is dead

Moran announces for Council seat

Carleen Murphy Moran announces her candidacy for Councilperson Ward 1.

Moran is a lifelong resident of Cedar Point, being the daughter of Pat and Carol Murphy. She is married to Tommy Moran, who is employed by GE Plastics, and has a daughter, Kate, who attends Bay Catholic.

Moran graduated in 1975 from Our Lady Academy and in 1981 received a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

She is a member of the Bay-

Waveland Yacht Club, the Krewe of Nereids, and is a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Parish and of the West Gulf Coast Association of Realtors. Moran also serves on the Hancock County Human Resources Board.

Moran states that "Our city is such a special place, a unique blend of old and new. We are truly blessed to be part of such a community that has at its fingertips 'the best of the best.' Our city has been exposed to rapid growth. As our surroundings have changed, our needs dictate



Carleen Murphy Moran

the importance of electing an individual to represent our ward that possesses the educational background, the communication and interpersonal skills, and most importantly, someone who possesses and maintains a positive, open approach. Nothing less is acceptable."

Why do I want to serve as Ward 1 Councilperson? Moran asked. "Quite simply," she answered, "I want my children and their children to have the opportunity to grow and to prosper in a community laden with great things, as I have and as my parents did. This won't happen unless we make it happen, with cautious and proper planning. I want Bay St. Louis to move forward and to progress, yet to remain in many ways the same Bay St. Louis that we know and are proud to call our home, but better."

WAMA offers tour techniques tips

The Walter Anderson Museum of Art continues its Docent Education Program Tuesday, April 1, at 10 a.m. to join Marshall Adams, education curator, and Susie Greene for a creative review of tour techniques, as well as a humorous look at "The Tour From Heck," or how tours should not be conducted. Call 872-3164 for more information.

The program is open to anyone, and is of particular interest to those interested in becoming a WAMA docent. A docent is a special kind of museum volunteer who helps visitors get the most from their museum experience.

Docents lead tour groups through an exhibition, discussing the theme of the show and the works on display. The docent education program is held the first Tuesday of each month. Each meeting's content will vary, and may include outside speakers, film and slide resources, round-table discussions and field trips.

Volunteers' meeting Tuesday, April 1, at 10 a.m. to join Marshall Adams, education curator, and Susie Greene for a creative review of tour techniques, as well as a humorous look at "The Tour From Heck," or how tours should not be conducted. Call 872-3164 for more information.

Anyone interested in volunteering at the museum is encouraged to attend the meetings, which are held the second Monday of each month. Light refreshments will be served. Call 872-3164 for information.

Library's discussion group

The historical background of life in Mississippi will be the topic of discussion at the library's book discussion group Tuesday, April 1, 2-3:30 p.m. in the Seal Meeting Room of the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library. The group normally meets every other Tuesday at 2 p.m.

The source material for the new series, available for purchase or for check-out in the library, is *Mississippi Writers, Volume II, Non-Fiction*, edited by Dorothy Abbott and published by University Press of Mississippi.

Writers include Eudora Welty, Shelby Foote, Ellen Gilchrist, Medger Evers, Charles Evers, Tennessee Williams, John and William Faulkner, Hodding Carter, Craig Claiborne, Willie Morris, Richard Wright and Margaret Walker Alexander.

The reading for the Apr. 1

meeting includes excerpts from Walker Percy's *Lanterns on the Levee*, Mildred D. Taylor's *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, and Mildred Spurrier Topp's *Sile Please*.

Sponsored by the Hancock County Library System, the discussion group began in March, 1990. Since that time, they have completed 110 readings from Plato, Hobbes, Locke deTocqueville, Freud, the Bible, among others, Mississippi fiction, play readings and 20 philosophical questions.

The objective of the discussion group is to read the selection before the meeting, bring their own ideas to the discussion, think about problems in the original sources while relying on group discussion rather than secondary interpretations.

Further information is available by calling Sharon Kronlein at 467-2283, or David Woodburn at 467-5282.

Library Story Hour

"Alligators and Crocodiles" will be the theme of the children's story hour at the Kiln Library Tuesday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.

Ten Little Crocodiles, Mama Don't Allow and See You Later Alligator are books to be read. Children will see the fingerplay, *Five Little Monkeys*, and receive a color sheet.

"Grandparents" will be the theme of the children's story hour Wednesday, April 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library.

Cadillac, Kevin's Grandma and Little Rabbit Goes to Sleep are books to be read. Children will color pictures to take home.

Weekly story hours are held September through May. Programs last approximately one hour.

The Kiln Library hosts a story hour every other Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. These programs last about 30 minutes.

Programs and activities are designed for pre-school age children three to five years old who are not part of a nursery or pre-school group.

For individual branch story hour information, contact David Woodburn, Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Public Library, 467-5282; or Sandra Ladner, Kiln Library, 255-1724.

BSLLT auditions

The Bay St. Louis Little Theater has scheduled auditions for roles in "Vanities" for 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 4-5 at the Boardman Avenue Playhouse. Production dates are May 23, 24, 30, 31 and June 1.

There are parts for three women, close in age, up to about 30 years.

Helpers for backstage and sets are also welcome.

For information, call director Gary Taylor at 896-2490 or Donna Mellott at 466-6580.

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The Grass Harp set

Pearl River Community College's Theater Department will present "The Grass Harp" by Truman Capote April 3-5 in Moody Hall Auditorium.

The play set for 7:30 p.m. each night is open to the public. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students.

For information, call Wooten at (601) 795-1171.

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Pastor

Continued from Page 1A

Irma Peters called it "frightening" at first.

In New York Peters got a job with a paint manufacturer and eventually joined the union, becoming a painter.

He worked at several different locations, including Lord and Taylor Department Store and CBS before ending up as the sole painter for the Metropolitan Opera House, which Peters called "wonderful."

"He was the only painter (at the Opera House), which is amazing to me," Irma Peters said.

In 1995 the couple made a decision which would drastically change their lives.

Instead of waiting until age

62, Peters took early retirement at 55, and a significant cut in income, to return to the community where he was raised.

"It was more and more on my mind, I couldn't get away from it," Peters said. "I had told my wife that when I reached 55, I know we'll take a cut in pay, but I want to retrace Dad's footsteps."

Despite leaving both their grown children and four grandchildren in New York, Irma Peters supported her husband's decision.

"All of his life that is what he wanted to do," she said. "We were both working so our income was good, but who is guaranteed (to reach) 62?"

Another gamble was whether Peters would be permitted to serve at the church begun by his family.

Although Peters received over five years of religious training while in New York, eventually becoming a pastor at the United Methodist Mission Church in Queens, there was no guarantee he would be able to take over at St. Rock once he returned.

"I wasn't sure how it was going to turn out because everything is assigned," Peters said. "I had faith that eventually the Lord would give me the church."

The Peters returned in March 1995 and he became pastor of St. Rock that June.

What he returned to was a severely dwindling congregation which was not even holding services in its own church.

The original church had been destroyed in the 1947 hurricane, but rebuilt shortly thereafter.

Four years ago, the congregation had moved out of the existing church because of concern over structural soundness.

Peters had actually returned for a weekend while still living in New York to help run a revival to raise money to purchase the land across the street where two large trailers now sit, serving as the church and the office/meeting hall.

However, the biggest change to meet Peters upon his return was not the church building, but the community itself.

"When I first came back and began to find out what was going on in the community, it almost tore me up," he said. "I couldn't believe a community this small could have such a problem with drugs and alcohol."

Peters discovered that what used to be the center of community life, the church, was now a very minuscule part.

The congregation officially listed 17 members, but only five were active.

With all the changes in the community, Peters said one of the most troubling is the fact that the young people seem to have no direction.

"The young people have lost sight of where they need to be going," he said. "They hang on corners. The last place they go is church, if they go at all."

Peters explained that in the short period that he and his wife have been back, two children in the community have died. The enticement of drugs is hard to fight because of the money that can be made, explained Peters.

"Black youth are easy prey for drugs simply because there are standards in employment that some black youth can't reach," he said. "Drugs (come into) poor neighborhoods because those people want to have the money. Everyday youngsters are getting involved and they are getting younger and younger."

Peters has taken a kind of "grass roots" approach to tackling the problems facing his community.

He has spoken to Waveland Mayor John Mason about some of the problems facing his community, and the mayor has promised to investigate.

He is reaching out to the children in the community and to their parents explaining that some children who may be involved in drugs sometimes come from good families who are unaware, or simply at a loss as to how to deal with the problem.

Last year the church offered a summer Bible school which was attended by 50 community children.

However, due to lack of volunteer staffing, Peters has not yet decided if the program can be offered again this year.

Services are now held at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday.

About every other Saturday, a fish and chicken dinner is held to encourage community involvement and to help raise money.

Several outreach ministries have been started, including one to a nearby housing project and one to a nursing home.

Results of the hard work and evangelization are beginning to show.

The congregation is now up to 50 members, with 27 of them active.

"People have responded," Peters said. "They have rallied around us."

Heating and air conditioning units were donated to the church.

Peters said he has contacted employers who are willing to hire area youth, but found the youth are not interested.

He is not discouraged and said he will keep going.

"If I felt like there was nothing I could do to help the community, I wouldn't have come back," he said.

However, he said the answer will have to come from the community itself.

"I would like to see this community become a thriving part of Waveland. The community must decide to rise up against the drug dealers," Peters said. "There are more community members than drug dealers and its time to take back the streets."

After almost two years, both Irma and Donald Peters are still happy with their decision to return home.

"We're glad to be home," Irma Peters said. "We do a lot of fishing and we like that."

As for the future, the pastor has a building fund underway for a permanent church and a gymnasium which he hopes would be a draw to area youth.

The estimated cost is approximately \$120,000, which will probably have to come predominantly from private donations.

"It will be some place for the children to go," he said. "If they have no place to go they can be easily approached."

For now, Peters keeps working with the tools he has on a personal basis in the community.

"It all boils down to a person respecting themselves and respecting other people," Peters said. "If they do that I think they can rise above where they are now."

Amtrak

Continued from Page 1A

pledged actual monies to continue the rail service.

In lieu of actual funds, the SRRTC asked Amtrak to consider the states' promises to improve grade crossings and depots along the Gulf Coast route.

The Gulf Coast Limited wasn't the only line falling victim to Amtrak's operating budget. Amtrak's federal sub-

sidy has been cut from \$392 million in 1995 to \$202 million proposed in President Clinton's 1998 operating budget. And, Congress wants the national railroad to become self-sufficient by the year 2002.

On May 10, unless new funding is worked out, Amtrak will discontinue service along three other lines: The Desert Wind

between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles; the Pioneer between Denver and Seattle; and the Lake Shore Limited between Boston and Albany, N.Y.

Amtrak customers are urged to call the toll-free 1/800-USA-RAIL number for schedule and service information.

Favre

Continued from Page 1A

and I feel that we have ensured that this growth is managed responsibly while continuing to provide an exceptional quality of life to our citizens. During my administration we have been able to not only provide but to also maintain a reduction of city property taxes of 85 percent. In addition, growth in retail spending has resulted in an increase in sales tax revenues of 84 percent."

He continued, stating, "Our mission to provide exceptional service to the residents of Bay St. Louis remains the same, and we will continue to provide a residential and economic environment that addresses the needs and desires of our diverse population. The recent issuance of a \$5.5 million bond issue has allowed us to construct quality facilities for our citizens, including a new senior citizens center and a seven-field sports complex."

"We have worked closely with county, state and federal officials to provide for continued improvements, such as the recent beach renourishment project in the downtown area. The planning and design of addi-

tional facilities are underway, including over five miles of bike paths and walkways and a new, handicapped-accessible pier at Ulman Avenue."

"Long-needed renovations to our drainage system are underway, and the city is in the process of issuing an additional \$5.5 million bond issue to allow for improvements and expansions to our sewer, water and gas systems."

"An extensive re-paving project of our streets and sidewalks will be underway by the end of this year. The good news is that both of these bond issues have been accomplished with no tax or utility rate increases to our citizens."

"We are overseeing improvements that are important to our citizens and are making a difference in their quality of life. The city recently received a five percent reduction in the flood insurance rates for those residents who live in flood-prone areas, and we have applied for an additional five percent reduction for the current fiscal year," Favre added.

"The City of Bay St. Louis prides itself on progress with

preservation and protection, and we have amply demonstrated our commitment to growth combined with the protection of our rich culture," Favre states.

"We have continued to preserve the historic landmarks located throughout our city, such as the L&N train depot. The complete renovation of this facility has made it an asset to both the surrounding area and to the city as a whole."

"We have an exceptional team of employees," Favre stated, "and I feel that they have been instrumental in the progress we've made. We will continue to be accessible to our citizens and responsive to their needs."

"I am proud of the great strides we've made and the progress that is taking place in our city. I would like to extend my thanks to the citizens of Bay St. Louis for allowing me the privilege of serving as mayor for the past eight years, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to provide the leadership that has made Bay St. Louis A Place Apart."

SSC to induct three into Hall of Fame

St. Stanislaus announced three men will be inducted into the SSC Hall of Fame April 12.

The inductees are Brother Joseph Donovan, SC, Oscar E. Pacheco Ortiz and James Thomas LaNasa Sr., posthumously.

Brother Donovan has served in various roles at St. Stanislaus for more than 30 years.

He has worked as teacher, prefect and assistant principal. He currently serves the school as the head prefect. Brother Joseph has also taught in Mobile and New Orleans.

Brother Joseph was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. He received his bachelor of science degree from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala. in 1968. He obtained his master of science degree from Fordham University in New York in 1972.

Oscar E. Pacheco Ortiz is a 1942 graduate of St. Stanislaus. He was born in San Jose, Costa Rica, but spent some of his early childhood in Honduras.

While at SSC, Pacheco was several times class president, wrote for the school newspaper, was a Sodality member, and played for both the tennis and football teams. Upon graduation he received an accounting degree from Soule College in New Orleans.

He returned to his native Costa Rica after earning his degree and worked for several coffee plantations. At the age of 28, he was promoted president of these coffee plantations. He also served for a number of years as president of the Costa Rican Chamber of Coffee Growers.

In the 1950s Pacheco began breeding first Holsteins then Brahman bulls and received several awards for his work. He was killed in a car accident in 1963.

CAFESA which is now one of Costa Rica's largest companies importing and distributing agricultural products required by coffee growers and their packing plants.

During his business career, Pacheco also served as president of Chase Manhattan of Costa Rica.

Pacheco and his wife, Flora Gonzalez de Pacheco, have six children, 18 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. The Pachecos live on their ranch in Costa Rica, Hacienda Solimar, which includes a reserve of the Dry Tropical Costa Rican forest. At age 73, Pacheco is an active cattle breeder, conservationist, coffee producer and business.

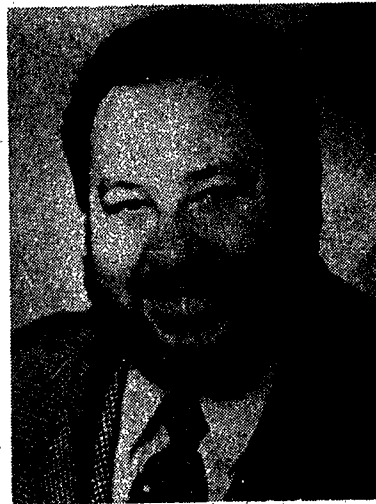
LaNasa, a native New Orleansian, graduated from St. Stanislaus in 1947. While at SSC, he played first chair clarinet and also started a dance band and orchestra. Years later he began The LaNasa Beginner Band Award at St. Stanislaus.

After attending Tulane University on a music scholarship, he owned several successful businesses among which was LaNasa Realty in New Orleans, which he operated until his retirement in 1992.

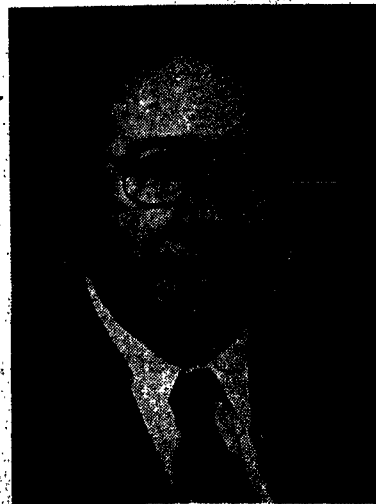
LaNasa's community involvement included performing member of the New Orleans Opera House Chorus, the New Orleans Concert Choir and the St. Francis Cabrini Choir. He was also a charter member of the Krewes of Pontchartrain parade.

LaNasa was the longest serving president of the SSC Alumni Association from 1979 to 1990 and was often a featured speaker on career day during those years.

He and his wife, Joyce, raised seven children. He died in the year of 1963.



James LaNasa



Oscar Pacheco



Brother Joseph Donovan

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BUSINESS NEWS

8A-THE SEA COAST ECHO-SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997

Doing your taxes? Consider tax-free investments

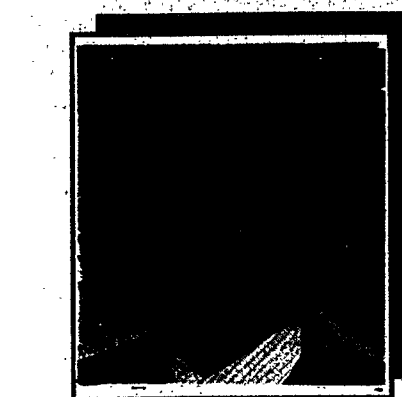
If you're among the minority of Americans who have already done your taxes, congratulations! But if you're like most people, you've probably waited until now to begin thinking about your taxes.

When you're working on your IRS form 1040, take a look at line 8a. This is where you list your taxable interest income. It may come from savings and money market accounts, CDs and corporate bonds. This is all money on which you'll owe taxes come April 15.

Now, look at line 8b, tax-exempt interest income. This includes income you earn on tax-free investments, such as municipal bonds, tax-free mutual funds and unit trusts. You report this income, but you don't pay taxes on it. The more income you can move from line 8a to 8b, the more of your interest you keep.

When comparing tax-free and taxable investments, be careful not to fall into the trap of looking only at their stated yields. Remember to consider how much of that yield will go to taxes. On a taxable investment, that amount would be your tax bracket — 28 percent, 31 percent, etc. On a federally tax-free investment, however, that amount is zero.

In fact, tax-free investments often provide significantly more income than you would take home after paying taxes on a taxable investment, even



FINANCIAL FOCUS

Submitted by Craig Foster
Edward Jones Co.

Tax-free Yield	15% Bracket	28% Bracket	31% Bracket
4.0%	4.70%	5.55%	5.80%
4.5	5.29	6.25	6.52
5.0	5.88	6.94	7.25
5.5	6.47	7.64	7.97
6.0	7.06	8.33	8.70
6.5	7.65	9.03	9.42
7.0	8.24	9.72	10.14
7.5	8.82	10.42	10.87

though the stated yield may be lower on the tax-free investment.

The following table shows the return you would have to earn on a taxable investment to earn, after taxes, the same amount you would take home from a tax-free investment.

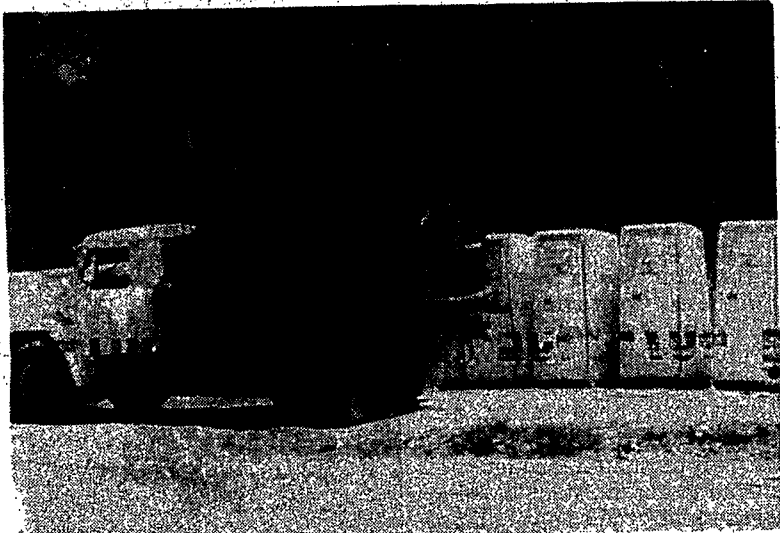
For example, if you're in the 28 percent tax bracket, you

would have to earn 6.94 percent on a taxable investment to match the tax-free return of a 5 percent municipal bond.

Tax-free investing can be particularly beneficial if you're in the 28 percent federal tax bracket or higher. In fact, a study last year by Nuveen Research tracked the after-tax returns on various investments

held for 20 years. The results showed that, for higher-income investors, tax-free bonds performed second only to stocks.

As a tax-paying investor, you can't afford to overlook the benefits of tax-free investing. Talk to your tax adviser and investment representative to see if tax-free investments are right for you.



Business expands

Boudin's Waste & Recycling now offers portable toilet service for residential and commercial customers. Boudin is the contract garbage collector for Hancock County and the cities of Bay St. Louis and Waveland. The company also offers container and dumpster service from two to 40 yards and septic tank pumping. (Echo staff photo by Ellis C. Cuevas)

Group awarded Enterprise status

At the March 20 Private Industry Council meeting, Jean Denson, director of the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development, Employment and Training division, announced Gulf Coast Business Services Corporation, the administrative entity of the Gulf Coast Private Industry Council, has met the requirements to achieve Enterprise status.

The Enterprise is a national network of workforce development organizations committed to enhancing the quality and efficiency of publicly funded employment and training services with 164 members.

Becoming an Enterprise member means that Gulf Coast Business Services Corporation provides superior job placement services, achieves high customer satisfaction and incorporates continuous improvement strategies in its management practices.

That's good news for Mississippi. Locally that translates to high levels of customer satisfaction and with training and employment services and outstanding results.

"We commend the Gulf Coast Business Services Corporation for achieving this national quality award," says Denson. "We are very pleased with the national recognition of the Enterprise status," says Mary Lee McNeil, president of Gulf Coast Business Services Corporation.

Award, the President's Quality Award, and numerous prestigious state quality awards.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST THURSDAY'S CLOSE 3-27-97 - 3:00 P.M.

COMPANY/SYMBOL	LAST PRICE	WEEKLY CHANGE
ALCAN ALUM/AL	33 1/2	-1 1/2
ALPHA HOSPITALITY/ALHY	2 1/2	-1 1/2
AT & T	35 1/2	+1/2
AUTOZONE INC/AZO	23 1/2	+1/2
CALGON CARBON/CCC	11	-1/2
CASINO MAGIC/CMAG	1 1/2	+1/2
CHEVRON CORP/CHV	69 1/2	+1/2
COCA COLA/KO	57 1/2	-2 1/2
CSX CORP/CSX	46 1/2	-1 1/2
DUPONT/DD	107 1/2	-3 1/2
EUROPA CRUISE/KRUZ	15 1/2	+1/2
FREEMONT MC MORAN INC	28 1/2	-1/2
GENERAL ELEC/GE	101 1/2	-1 1/2
GOODYEAR TIRE/GT	53 1/2	-1/2
GRAND CASINO/GND	9 1/2	-1/2
HANCOCK HOLDING CO/HBHC	41	+1/2
INTL BUSINESS MACHINE/IBM	137 1/2	+1 1/2
INTL PAPER/CO/JP	41	-1/2
K MART CORP/KM	12 1/2	-1/2
LOCKHEED MARTIN/LMT	84	+1 1/2
MAGNA BANCORP INC/MGNL	18 1/2	+1/2
MCDONALDS CORP/MCD	49 1/2	+1 1/2
ROCKWELL INTL CORP/ROK	85 1/2	-2 1/2
SOUTHERN COMPANY/SO	21	-1 1/2
WELLS FARGO/WFC	30 1/2	+1 1/2

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Employee theft topic of seminar

The University of Southern Mississippi's Small Business Development Center is offering a workshop, "Foxes in the Henhouse" Tuesday, April 15, 6:30-9 p.m. at the Mississippi Coast Chamber of Commerce, Hwy. 90, Gulfport.

The workshop will cover our society's massive employee-theft problem, why employees steal, how they might steal from you, countermeasures to internal theft, and how to handle a dishonest employee. Dr. Reid Doster of Doster & Associates will be the instructor.

Co-sponsors are Gulf Coast Business Technology Center, Greater Biloxi Economic Development Foundation, Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce, and USM Gulf Coast Continuing Education.

Fee is \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. To pre-register, mail check made payable to USM SBDC (by April 9) to USM Small Business Development Center, 136 Beach Park Place, Long Beach, MS 39560.

For information, contact the USM Small Business Development Center at 601-865-4578.

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BUSINESS NEWS

THE SEA COAST ECHO—SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997-9A

Can medical savings accounts lower medical costs?

Q. I would like a little information on the new medical savings accounts. How do they work? What are their advantages and disadvantages? How much can be contributed? Are the new programs really better than a regular major medical health insurance policy? Are they available in South Mississippi now? How should I go about looking into them?

A. The new medical savings accounts (MSAs) are tax-advantaged savings accounts tied to high-deductible health insurance policies and are available to small business and their employees through a four-year pilot program.

While medical savings accounts for these groups are not new, this is the first year that they are tax-deductible. The accounts are different from the "flexible" medical spending accounts available as part of many large employer cafeteria plans.

MSAs are available to self-employed individuals and to small businesses with 50 employees or less. For the MSA to be deductible for federal tax purposes, the individual or family must be covered by a health insurance policy which conforms to the federal requirements for this program.

There are more than a dozen health insurance companies

throughout the nation offering conforming policies and MSAs. A few companies in our area offer them now.

The pilot study intends to limit the number of MSAs to 750,000. However, due to the IRS tracking system, the program will be open to all eligible employees until Sept. 1, 1997, and to self-employed persons until Oct. 1, 1997, regardless of the number of participants.

The insurance policies are required to have annual deductibles ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,250 for single persons and from \$3,000 to \$4,500 for families. Either the employer or employee (not both) makes tax deductible contributions to the MSA.

If the employer makes the contributions, employees with the same coverage must receive

the same MSA contribution.

Contributions are limited to 65 percent of the deductible for an individual and 75 percent of the deductible for a family.

For instance, contributions cannot exceed \$3,375 per year on a family policy with the maximum deductible of \$4,500. Another federal requirement—out-of-pocket costs (deductible and co-payments) on covered expenses are capped at \$3,000 for an individual and \$5,500 for a family per year.

MSA money can be used for various out-of-pocket medical expenses including:

- amounts counted as part of the policy deductible or co-payment

- uncovered amounts over insurance policy's "reasonable and customary" limits

- dental and vision care

- regular medical check-ups
- mental health counseling
- home medical equipment
- alternative medicine
- long-term care expenses
- transportation for medical needs.

If MSA money is not used during the year, it is left to accumulate tax-free until needed. If money is taken out of the MSA for nonmedical purposes, it is subject to federal income tax and a 15 percent penalty if the participant is under age 65.

For participants who become Medicare-eligible and wish to purchase a Medicare supplement policy, premiums on Medigap insurance are not an allowable medical use for MSA money.

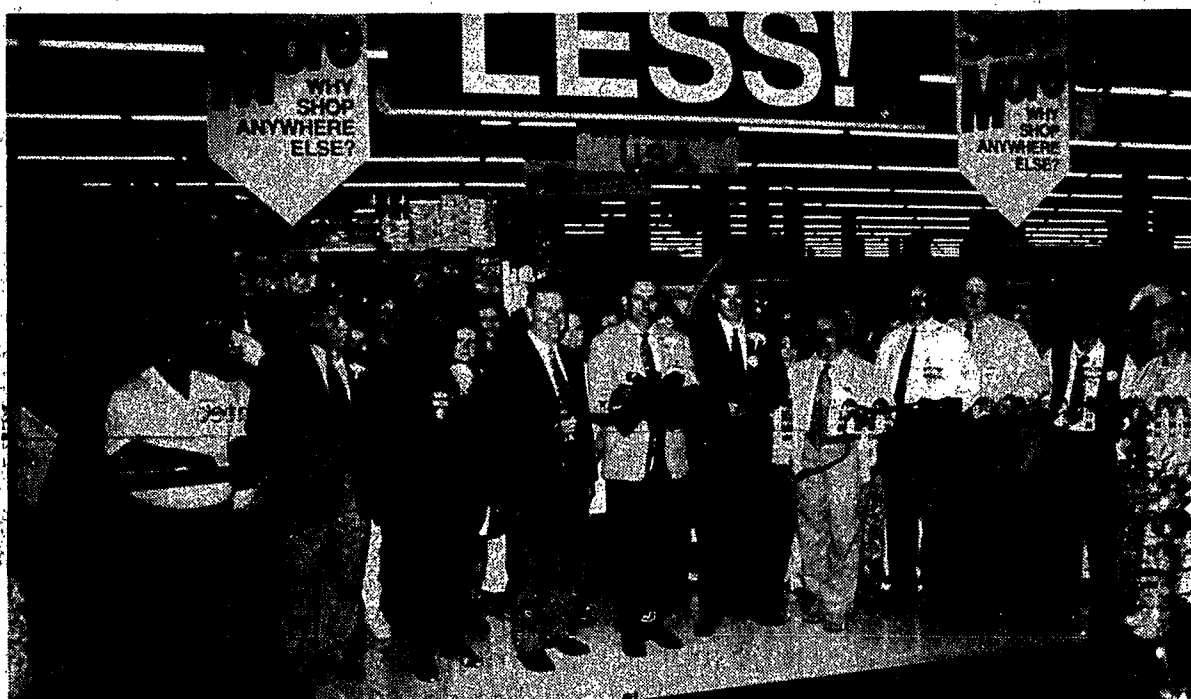
It the MSA program better than the alternatives? That depends on the specific MSA plan and the other health-care programs available to a small business. The medical situation of the individual or family will also be a factor.

Healthy families may find that MSA money accumulates faster than the medical expenses allowing their savings to grow tax-free, much like an Individual Retirement Account.

To make the best decision for your situation, check with local independent health insurance agents. Compare the new accounts to your current coverage as well as other health insurance policies and HMO plans available in our area.

CONSUMER UPDATE

By Jan Lukens, MBA, CFP
Consumer Money Management Specialist



Re-grand opening

Wal-Mart, Waveland, celebrated with a ribbon cutting Re-Grand Opening Celebration Tuesday, marking the renovation of the store's interior. Wal-Mart officials and others on hand for the ribbon cutting were, front row from left, Cindy Vernon, chamber executive director; Jay Lagasse, chamber director; Kent Skull, Valerie Jackson, John Mason, Waveland mayor; Charlie Rinehart, district manager; Ray Cox, Waveland store manager; Charles Scianna, Bay St. Louis Councilman; Danny Cockrell, Kevin Peacock, district manager; and Kevin Wasson. In commenting about his associates, Cox said, "I've got the finest group of people ever assembled in a Wal-Mart." (Echo staff photo by Richard Meek.)

Home sales beginning to bloom

As warmer temperatures begin to coax azaleas into bloom, February home sales in Mississippi gave the state economy a preview of spring. February's housing market indicated that a warming trend for home sales has begun.

February's Mississippi Home Sales Report, released by the Mississippi Association of Realtors, shows an upturn over January's sales. Most markets are beginning to experience a spring thaw, according to MAR President John M. Dean Jr. of Leland.

"Interest rates continued to be attractive last month," said Dean. "That helped the Jackson market heat up a bit, and it led the state with 36 more homes sold in February than in January."

In February, Mississippi's Realtors closed 747 homes, up from January's 712 units sold. The state's two largest markets, the Jackson area and the Gulf Coast, finalized 230 and 139 sales, respectively. In smaller areas, Cleveland reported 16 sales, and Picayune/Poplarville reported 12.

The Association's Home Sales Report also indicated that the highest average home sales price in February was in Gretna at \$128,750, followed by the Vicksburg/Dibola area at \$118,125 and the Hattiesburg area at \$115,000.

Total homes sold February 1997, 747; January 1997, 712; year-to-date, 1,459.
Average selling price February 1997 was \$82,115; January 1997, \$84,132; and year-to-date, \$83,412.

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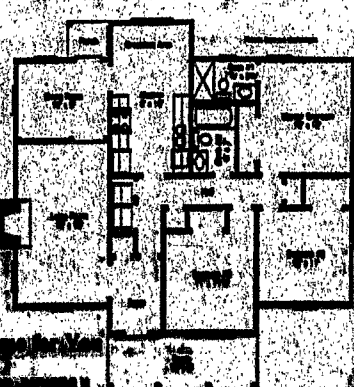
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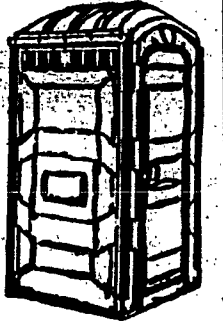
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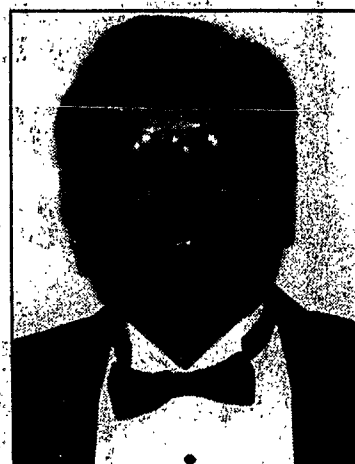
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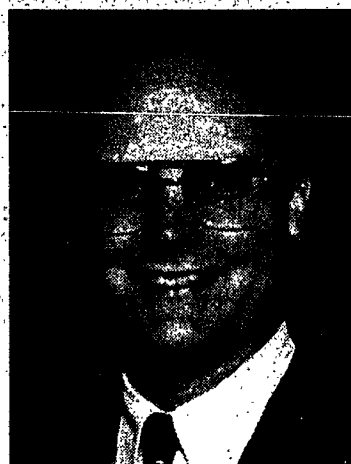
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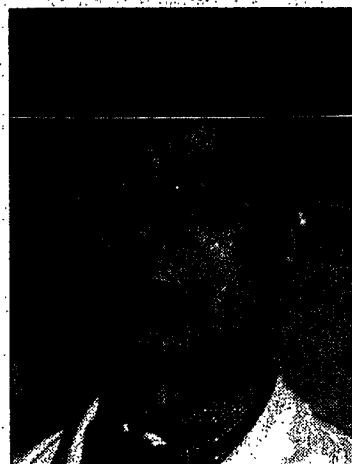
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Philip Schaeffer, M.D.
Frank Schmidt, M.D.
Michael Seicshnaydre, M.D.
D.H. Short, M.D.
Troy Storey, M.D.
Raymond Tipton, M.D.
Robert Travnicsek, M.D.
H.E. Wood, M.D.

Emergency Room Physicians

Sean Appleyard, M.D.
William Biggers, M.D.
Eric Fortenberry, M.D.
Tod Fusia, M.D.
Carolyn Gerald, M.D.
Douglas McDowell, M.D.
Stephen Orville, M.D.
Michael Renicks, M.D.
Percy Sanders, M.D.
Robert Sigillito, M.D.
Keith VanMeter, M.D.



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COMMUNITY

P.1B

Bay Catholic Science Fair winners

Category Winners

Botony & Microbiology

1st place-Alicia Asper, 2nd place-Christy Gleber, 3rd place-Brianna Murphy and Elissa Kergosien.

Chemistry

1st place-Katie Holt, 2nd place-Erin Stechmann, 3rd place-Leanne LaFrance.

Math, Earth & Space

1st place-Trey Treutel, 2nd place-Laura Shaw, 3rd place-Brian Parker.

Physics & Engineering

1st place-Austin Ladner, 2nd place-William Harris, 3rd place-Robert Coggins.

Zoology, Medicine & Health

1st place-Jane Covington, 2nd place-Rachel Cranford, 3rd place-Allena Nitiss.

Judges Favorite

Alicia Asper, Trey Treutel, Elissa Kergosien, Clare Adam, Patrick Remel, Brian Parker, Eric Cranford and Sam Tart.

Class Winners

Fourth Grade

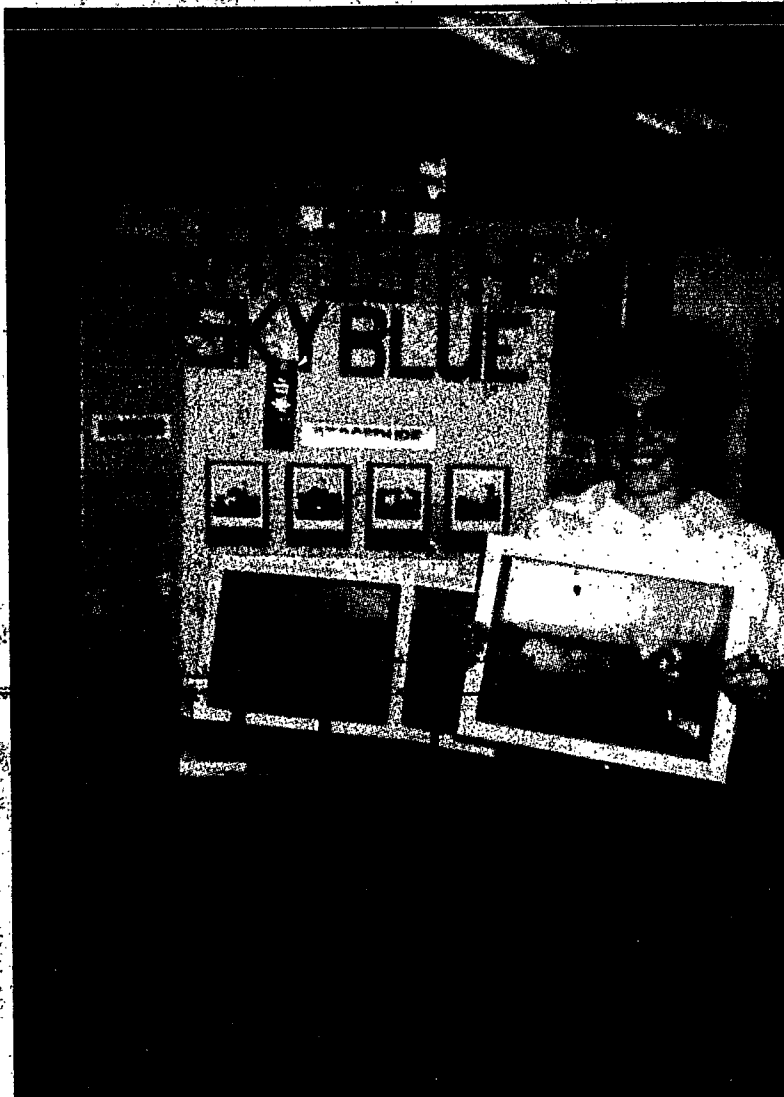
1st place-Eric Cranford, 2nd place-Kathry Corr, 3rd place-Jennifer Asper and Patrick Remel, Honorable Mention-April Depreo and Hannah Lafontaine.

Fifth Grade

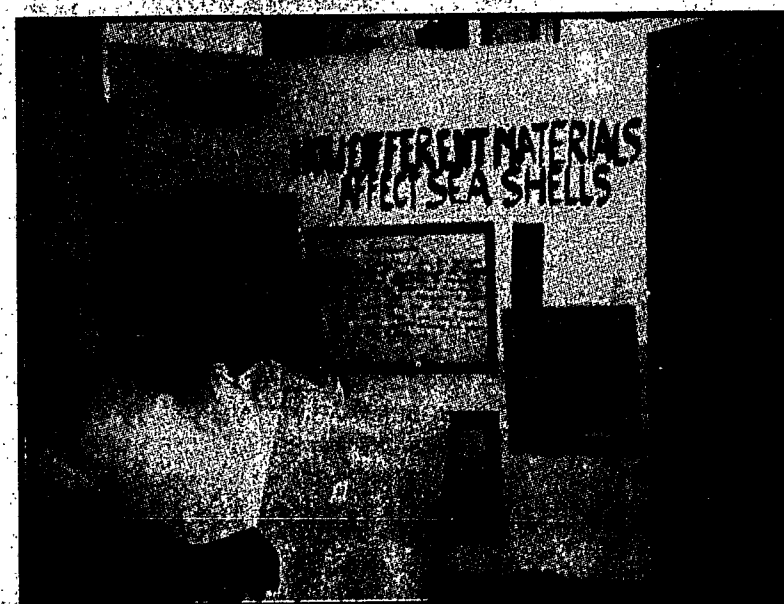
1st place-Michael Kivlan, 2nd place-Lindsey Lewandoski, 3rd place-Amand Monti, Luca Giardino, Honorable Mention-Lindsey Sramek.

Sixth Grade

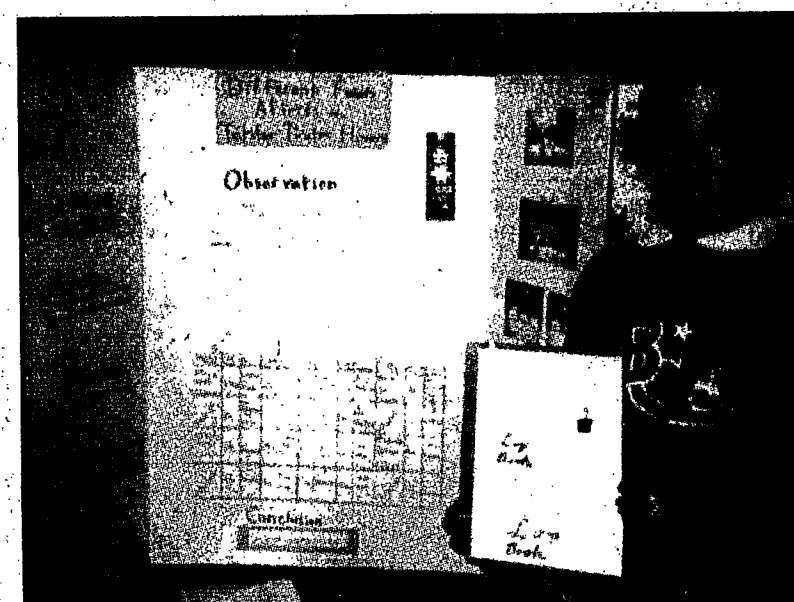
1st place-Ashley Timidaiski, 2nd place-Amanda Sramek, 3rd place-Elliot Arroyo, Honorable Mention-Katlynn Kerr and Kayla Ouellette.



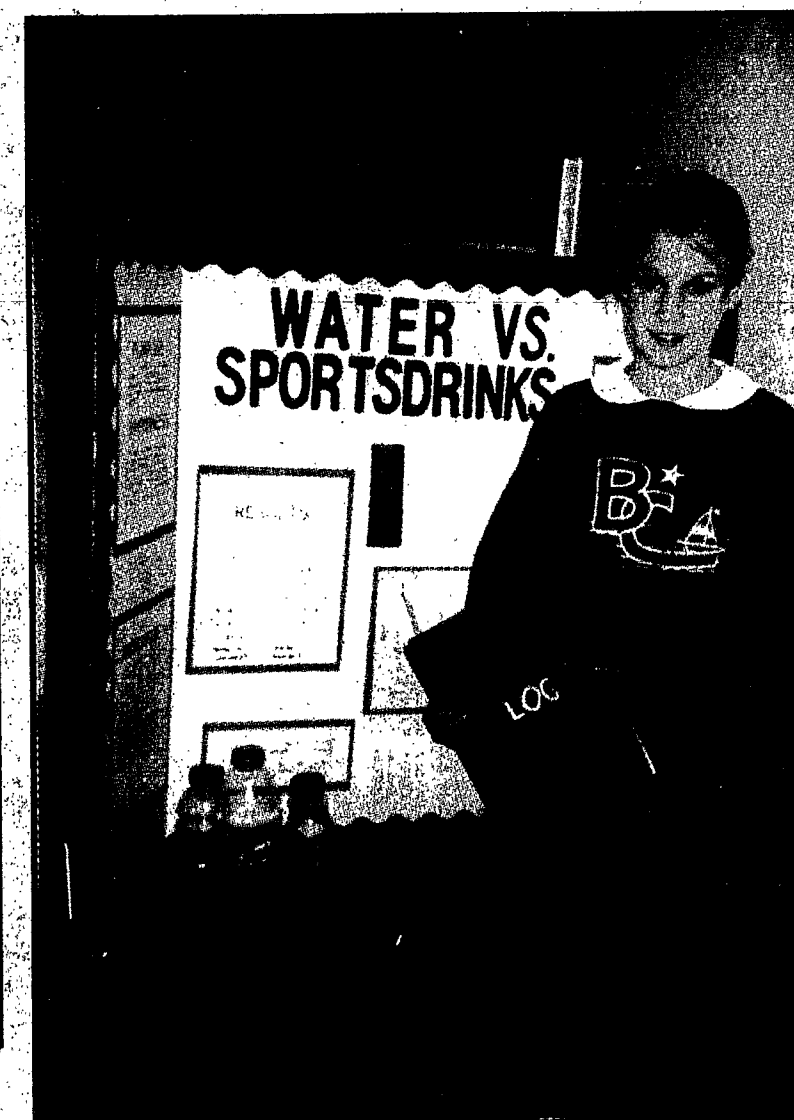
Laura Shaw
2nd place - Math, Earth & Space



Erin Stechmann
2nd place - Chemistry



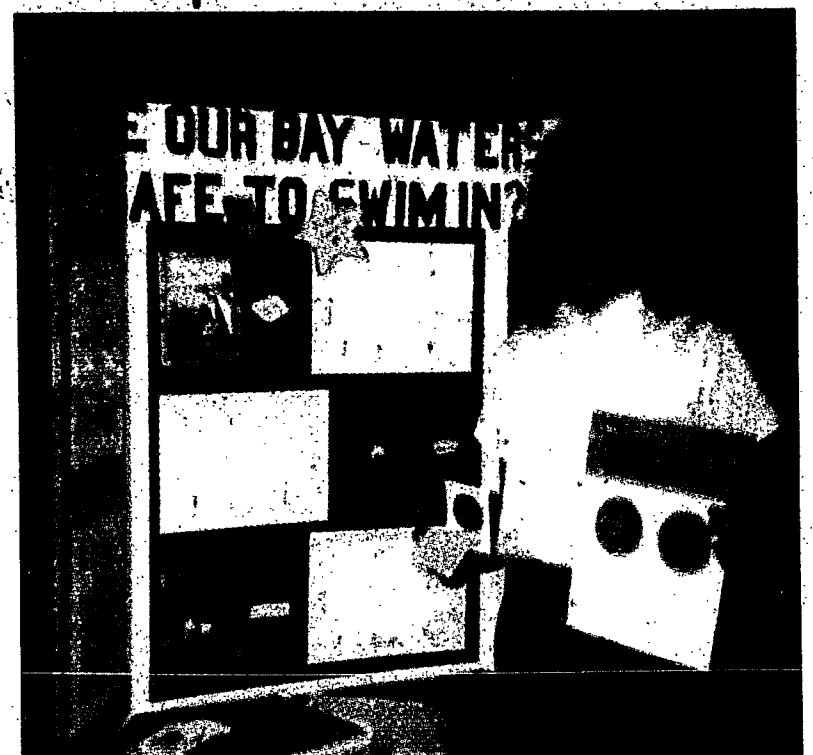
Christy Gleber
2nd place - Botony & Microbiology



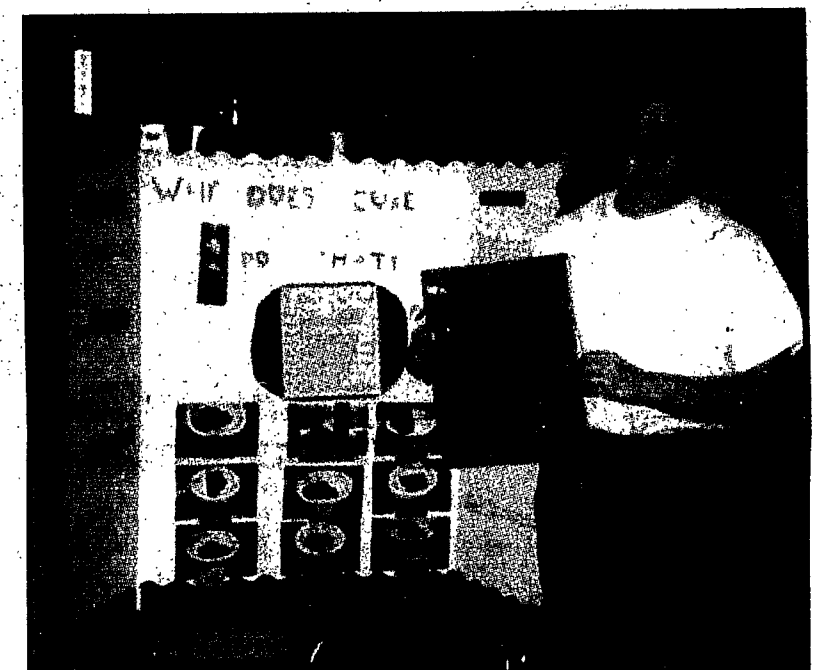
Rachel Cranford
2nd place - Zoology, Medicine & Health



William Harris
1st place - Physics & Engineering



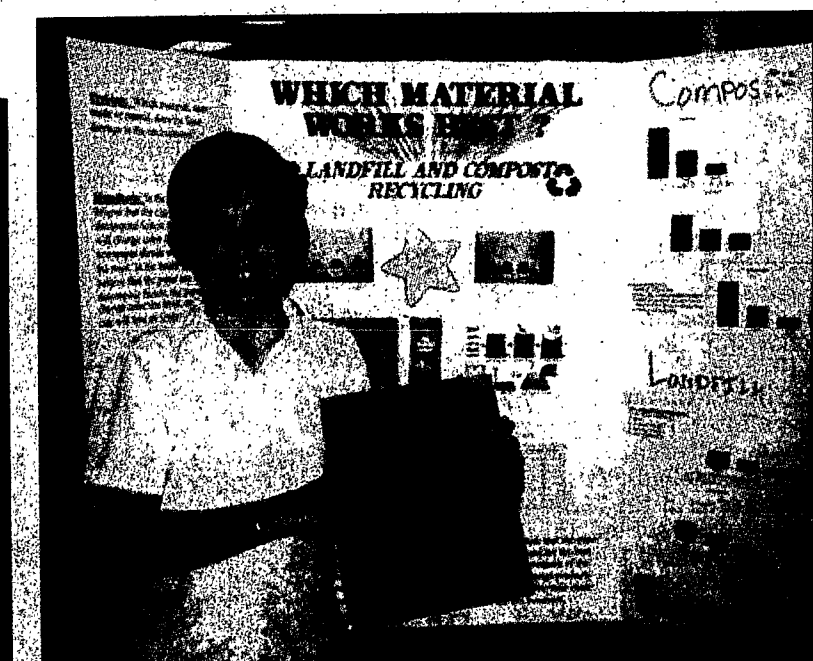
Alicia Asper
1st place - Botony & Microbiology
Judges Favorite



Jane Covington
1st place - Zoology, Medicine & Health



Katie Holt
1st place - Chemistry



Trey Treutel
1st place - Math, Earth & Space
Judges Favorite

YOUTH

2B-THE SEA COAST ECHO-SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997

Pela named candidate in scholars program

Emily Pela, senior at Our Lady Academy, has been named one of approximately 2,600 candidates in the 1997 Presidential Scholars Program.

Now in its 34th year, the Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors.

Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character

and involvement in community and school activities.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pela of Gulfport, Pela is an alpha honor roll student and a member of the National Honor Society, National French Honor Society and national Latin Honor Society.

Pela is also a member of the OLA Quiz Bowl Team and a 1996-97 cheerleader for St. Stanislaus athletic teams. She has been named the Pepsi Student

of the Month three times.

Active in the Youth Legislature, Pela has been named Speaker Pro-Tem, an Outstanding Representative and a Most Outstanding Representative twice while attending sessions in Jackson. During this past fall session, she had a bill signed by the Governor.

In her academic classes in her junior year, Pela received the highest academic average in English, religious studies, history and Latin.



Emily Pela

A member of St. James Catholic Church, Pela is a current member of the Diocesan Search Team, and she has been a member of OLA's Campus Ministry (a service organization) for two years. She also went with the St. James CYO to Saltillo, Mexico, the Catholic Diocesan Mission, for the last two summers.

Semifinalists for the Presidential Scholars Program will be announced in early April and scholars in May. Scholars will be invited to Washington, D.C., for several days in late June to receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a recognition ceremony.

St. Stanislaus announces STAR Student, Teacher

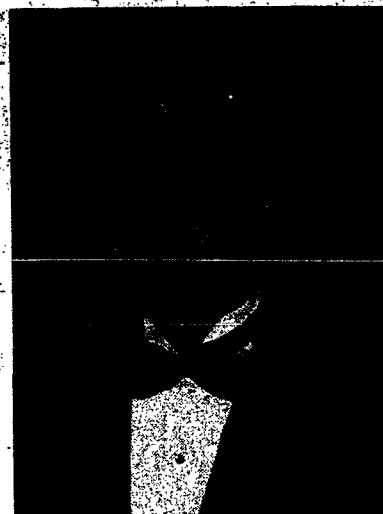
Bro. Ronald Tablot, SC, principal of St. Stanislaus, announced that Timothy Baden has been selected as a Mississippi STAR Student for the 1996-97 school year by the Mississippi Economic Council, sponsor of the program. Baden selected Mr. Tom Ackerman as his STAR Teacher.

Baden will be honored in Jackson during the Education Celebration portion of the MEC's annual membership meeting in April.

Star students are selected from accredited high schools on the basis of academic excellence. American College Test scores (ACT), and scholastic averages are considered in designation of the school's Star Student, explained Bob Pittman of Jackson, MEC president.

Baden is a National Merit Finalist and has earned President's Honor Roll or Alpha Honor Roll throughout his high school career. For three years he has been a member of the National Honor Society, the National Spanish Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta.

He is listed in *Who's Who Among American High School*



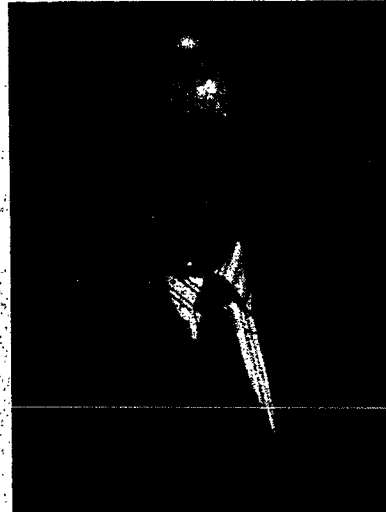
Timothy Baden

Students. at SSC he has been named Student of the Month and Student of the Day. For three years he participated in the SSC marching band, concert band and Pep Band.

He was class treasurer as a sophomore and class secretary as a junior. As a senior he is also a member of Students Against Drunk Driving.

Baden is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Everhart of Biloxi.

Baden selected Tom Ackerman as his STAR Teacher.



Tom Ackerman

man as the Star Teacher. Ackerman has 23 years of experience. He has taught English and/or Spanish at St. Stanislaus since 1983 as well as being moderator of the yearbook staff, moderator of the Spanish National Honor Society, and music minister for SSC.

For the previous 15 summers he has traveled with the summer youth program visiting the mission in Saltillo, Mexico.

For 14 years he has assisted with the Sunday music ministry at St. Augustine Seminary. Ackerman received a bachelor of arts from Lewis University in Lockport, Ill. and a master of arts from the University of Memphis.

Business Week set at MS University

Rising high school juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of America's free enterprise system at Mississippi University for Women's 20th annual Business Week June 1-6.

Students selected to take part in the week-long co-educational seminar will become a part of MUW's Free Enterprise Village — in which they live, dine and learn together about how the market economy operates.

The deadline for applications is March 31. Those students who are accepted must pay a registration fee of \$75, which defrays the cost of housing and meals. All other expenses are covered by Business Week sponsors.

Upon arrival, participants are divided into companies which, as a part of a model business

computer game, are separated into three divisions that create industries to "manufacture" three products. In addition to the computerized simulation, students will hear outstanding speakers from the business world, including Marguerite Wall, director of the Small Business Center at Hinds Community College; Julie Jorden of the Internet Learning Company in Columbus; and Lt. Pete Collins of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol.

Established in 1977 by a group of business and academic leaders, Business Week is the only program of its kind in

Mississippi.

To be eligible for participation, students must be rising juniors or seniors (current sophomores or juniors), have maintained a successful high school academic record, and be endorsed by their high school principals.

Business Week applications have been mailed to Mississippi high school principals, counselors, business teachers and teachers of the gifted.

For information, contact the MUW Office of Continuing Education at (601) 329-7137 or toll-free in Mississippi, 1-800-247-0758, ext. 7137.

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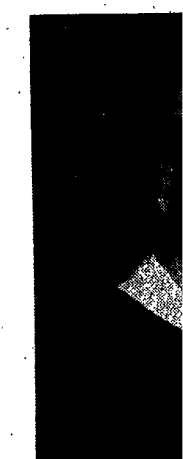
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BIRTHS

SEAN AARON BAILEY

Mr. and Mrs. Steven P. Bailey of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their first child, Sean Aaron, March 21, 1997 at 6:19 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces.

Mrs. Bailey is the former Marie-Louise Morgan.

Maternal grandparents are John and Kathy Morgan of Waveland.

Paternal grandparents are John Bailey of Titusville, Fla., and Diane Bailey of Waveland.

Great-grandparents include David and Bertha Williamson of Pass Christian, Theresa Everett of Bay St. Louis and Floyd and Sylvia Bailey of Idabel, Okla.

KEOKI LEWANNU BLACKLEDGE

Mr. and Mrs. Mark William Blackledge Jr. of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their second child, Keoki Lewannu, March 18, 1997 at 9:35 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn P. Phipps of Taft, Calif.

Paternal grandparents are Mark and Gwen Blackledge of Bay St. Louis.

Great-grandparents include Anna Belle Cox of Metairie, Lillian Bennett of Heaven, Okla., and Daughterty and Jackie Phipps of El Cajon, Calif.

MARY HASTINGS PUCKETT

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Hastings Puckett of Pass Christian announce the birth of their second child, Mary Hastings, March 25, 1997 at 12:44 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces.

Mrs. Puckett is the former Rivers Swan Yerger.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William Swan Yerger of Jackson.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ben Puckett of Jackson.

Mary is welcomed by her sister Rivers.

JACOB PETER WOLTZ

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Woltz Jr. of Diamondhead announce the birth of their first child, Jacob Peter, March 24, 1997 at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces.

Mrs. Woltz is the former Cheryl Christiansen.

Maternal grandparents are Peter and Karyn Christiansen of Diamondhead.

Paternal grandparents are William and Helen Woltz of Glendale Heights, Ill.

TORI ANN THERIOT

Troy Theriot and Melissa Guidry of Lakeshore announce the birth of their first child, Tori Ann, March 18, 1997 at 2:44 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

She weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Harold Jr. and Linda Guidry of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Patricia Esteves of Lakeshore and Clebert Theriot of Chalmette.

Great-grandparents include Archie and Grace Courrage, Harold Sr. and Doris Guidry and Josephine Simon.

Tori is welcomed by her sister Catha and brother Joshua.

MARINE MICHELLE HARTWICK

Bobbie Faye and Fredrick Hartwick of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their first child, Marine Michelle, March 13, 1997 at 3:41 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

She weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Faye.

Paternal grandmother is Debbie Hartwick.

JOHN JERALD

Bonnie Bishop and Bob Milnax of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their first child, John Jerald, March 20, 1997 at 4:44 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce.

Maternal grandparents are Juanita and Jerry Bishop of Westwego, La.

Paternal grandparents are John and Billye Milnax of Ball, La. John is welcomed by Chris, Jeremy, Amanda and Justin.

Handle eggs safely for happy holidays

Dying and hunting Easter eggs can be an entertaining activity, but don't let the holiday excitement take precedence over handling food safety.

Dr. Melissa Mixon, extension human nutrition specialist at Mississippi State University, said eating Easter eggs is not safe unless the eggs have been handled with the utmost care.

"When planning to eat Easter eggs, select eggs with a good expiration date printed on the carton and from a refrigerated display case at the grocery store. Inspect the eggs to make sure they are clean with uncracked shells," Mixon said.

Mixon advised grocery shoppers to bring a cooler to place eggs and other perishable items in if the trip home from the store will take longer than 30 minutes or if the temperature outside is hot. Refrigerate eggs as soon as possible after arriving home.

"Cook eggs using a slow boiling method to prevent cracking the eggs during the cooking process," Mixon said.

Eggs that are intended to be eaten should not stay unrefrigerated for more than a total of two hours. Eat hard-cooked eggs within one week after cooking, whether they have

been in the shell or peeled. "Two hours is not a long time to dye, hide and hunt eggs. To avoid the risk of food-borne illness, such as salmonella, keep eggs in a refrigerator," Mixon said.

Mixon recommended hiding eggs away from bacteria sources if you are planning to use them later.

"Hide eggs in places away from dirt and pets, and don't forget to refrigerate them as soon as they are found," she said.

"If you ever have any doubt about the length of time an egg — peeled or not — has been unrefrigerated, or the overall safety of an egg, do not eat it," Mixon said.

A good alternative to hunting hard-cooked eggs that are intended to be eaten later is hiding plastic eggs instead.

"Plastic eggs are fun for children to find because you can put candy or money inside them," Mixon said.

"A lot of people like to blow out eggs and dye the shells, but this is not a good idea. The person who blows out the egg runs the risk of getting a food-borne illness when their mouth comes in contact with the raw egg," Mixon said.

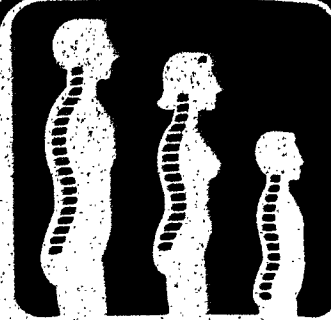
Miss Teen All American seeks representatives

The 1997 Miss Teen All American Pageant will be held Thursday, July 31 through Sunday, Aug. 3 at the Miami Airport Hilton and Marina in Miami.

All judging is on the basis of poise, personal interview and beauty of face and figure. There is no talent competition. To qualify, a young woman must be age 13-19 as of Aug. 1, 1997, never married and a U.S. resident.

To apply, send a recent photo, along with your name, address, telephone number and date of birth by fax or mail to: Dept. B,

Miss Teen All American, 603 Schrader Avenue, Wheeling, W.V. 26003-9619, fax 1-304-242-8841; phone, 1-304-242-4800.



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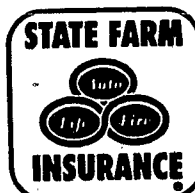
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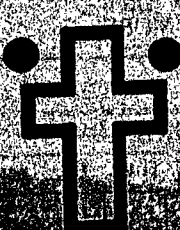
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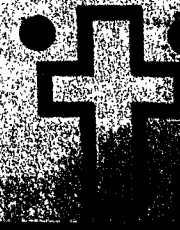
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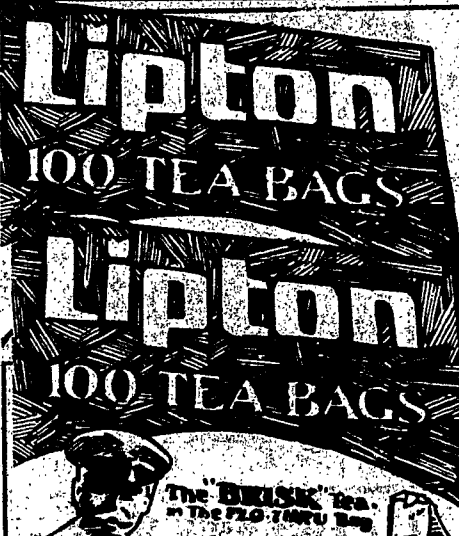
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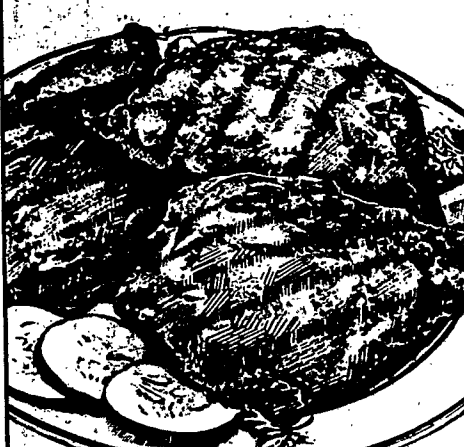


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The "WORD" for the Week

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The Bible tells us we are responsible before God to believe the Gospel. The Gospel is the Good News that God's Son, Jesus Christ, came into the world. He lived a life of sinless perfection in order to become a perfect sacrifice. He died on a cross to pay the penalty due to others for their lust, adultery, fornication, greed, theft, anger, hatred, murder and lies. He was raised from the dead to prove His sacrifice was acceptable to God.

The Bible teaches "that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scripture" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). This is the Good News of the Gospel. It is the Gospel in a nutshell.

God calls you to believe this Gospel. You are called to recognize your sin and confess it to God. You are called to place faith in Christ. You must believe that His sacrifice paid the penalty for

Trusting Christ

your sin. On the basis of Christ's sacrifice you ask God to forgive you. On the basis of Christ's resurrection you ask God to give you the ability to lead a new life.

You are summoned to what the apostle Paul calls "the obedience of faith" (Romans 1:5). You are called to obey the Gospel and trust in Christ.

TO HEAR MORE ON THE SAME TOPIC
CALL TOLL FREE FOR THE
"MINI-MESSAGE OF THE WEEK"
1-800-777-0389

Retreat scheduled

A retreat, "Living in the Resurrection," will be led by the Rev. Linda Lowry at the Episcopal Conference Center in Robert, La. Thursday, April 3, beginning 10 a.m. and lasting until noon Friday, April 4.

Barbara Parker, a religious artist from Trinity Church in Hattiesburg will share her art and co-direct the retreat.

There will be a carpool leaving from Trinity Church's parking lot in Pass Christian on the morning of April 3.

There is a charge of \$50 for the retreat. Ruth Northrop, ECW president, is in charge of the arrangements for the retreat.

For information, call 462-3463.

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WEDDING

Cunningham-Kolodziej



Kelly Kolodziej

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Kolodziej of Diamondhead announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Kelly Marie Kolodziej, to Michael Gerard Cunningham, son of Margaret Cunningham of Mount Laurel, N.J. and the late Patrick J. Cunningham.

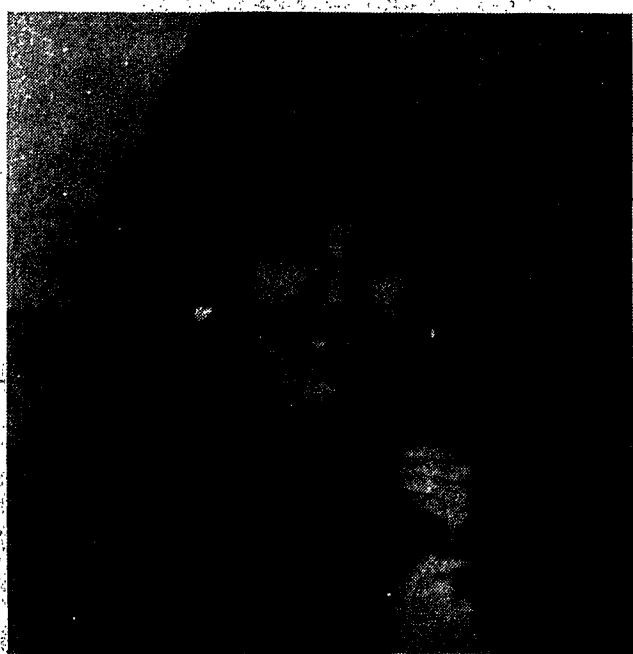
Miss Kolodziej is a granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Arnold P. Schmidt and of the late Mr. and Mrs. John C. Kolodziej. Mr. Cunningham's grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah O'Sullivan and the late Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cunningham.

The bride-elect is a 1987 graduate of Our Lady Academy and a 1991 graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a BBA in management. She was valedictorian of her class at OLA and attended the University of Notre Dame on a NROTC scholarship. She is a Lieutenant in the United States Navy, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Seven, Gulfport.

The prospective groom is a 1982 graduate of Herry Hill East High School and a 1988 graduate of Kennesaw State College with a BA in history. He is employed as a sales account manager with Kimberly-Clark.

The marriage will take place May 24 at noon at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis.

Guyot-DeRose



Gerald DeRose Sr.

Gerald DeRose Sr. and Carol DeRose of Waveland announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Geraldine F. DeRose, to Anthony R. Guyot, son of Rose Necaise of d'Iberville and the late Raymond Guyot.

The bride-elect is a 1988 graduate of Bay High School and earned an insurance license at Jefferson Davis College. She is employed with Floral Hills and Southern Memorial Cemetery.

The prospective groom is a graduate of d'Iberville High School and attended Jefferson Davis College and Texas Prep College. He will join the U.S. Coast Guard in April.

The wedding will take place April 12 at 6 p.m. at Seacoast Wedding Chapel in Biloxi.

Mr. Guyot will pursue a Coast Guard career. The couple will reside where stationed in July.

Hospice training

Quality Hospice of the Gulf Coast will present training to certify volunteers for National Hospice Organization Accreditation April 2 and 3, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the conference room of The Cornerstone, 101 Kirkwood in Piquette.

To register, call Gwen Gollotte at 432-2981, 374-4434 or 1-800-777-4279. Lunch will be complimentary for trainees.

Gollotte said, "Ten hours of initial training are mandatory for accreditation in the program with continuing education to be provided."

ing with bereavement contacts, doing errands for the patient or caregiver, assisting with the speakers bureau, office work, baking, crafts, or as an auxiliary volunteer in program development for the Hospice Care Fund.

Quality Hospice is a non-profit (501(c)(2) organization and is partially supported by memorials and contributions to the Hospice Care Fund.

The program offers compassionate care when a cure is no longer possible. The hospice provides the physical, emotional, spiritual, and financial support for the patient and family.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ANGLICAN Anglican Chapel of Archbishop Robert Leighton 401 So. Necaise Ave. Bay St. Louis 466-2767 St. George's Anglican Church Hwy 90 & First St. Henderson Point 467-4237 Pass Christian	APOSTOLIC Apostolic Church Ave. B, Kila-Cutoff Rd. Waveland 467-5856 Standard Apostolic Church 26456 Wolf Creek Rd. Pass Christian 255-2931	ASSEMBLY OF GOD Faith Assembly of God Kila 255-2567 First Assembly of God 1912 Arnold St. Waveland 467-7667	BAPTIST Bayshore Baptist 7547 Hancock Dr. Bayside Park 467-0500 Calvary Independent Baptist Longfellow Dr. Waveland 467-8546 Central Baptist 1202 Hwy 90 Bay St. Louis 467-0529 Diamondhead Baptist Diamondhead Dr. N. 255-3348 Fenton Community Church Corner of Edwin Ladner & Kila Delisle Rd. 255-3255 First Baptist 141 Main St. Bay St. Louis 467-4005 First Baptist Jeff Davis & St. Joseph Waveland First Baptist Church Franklin & Hancock St. Pearlinton First Missionary Baptist Sycamore St. Bay St. Louis 467-3193 First Southern Baptist Pearlinton 533-7313 Lakeshore Baptist Lakeshore Rd. Lakeshore Little Zion Baptist 510 Central Ave. Waveland 467-6497 Macedonia Baptist 400 Morris St. Waveland Morning Star Baptist Sycamore & Watts 466-4849 Mt. Chapel Baptist 721 Herlihy St. Waveland Old Spanish Trail Baptist 5078 Hwy 90 W. 467-4881 Riverside Baptist 6191 Epsy Dr. 452-7684 Shiloh Baptist 16327 Hwy 603 Kila 255-1118 Shoreline Park Baptist Waveland-Kila Cutoff Rd. Bay St. Louis Victory Baptist Hwy 603 255-1353
CATHOLIC Annunciation Catholic Kila 255-1800 Our Lady of the Gulf 228 S. Beach Blvd. Bay St. Louis 467-6509 St. Ann Catholic Clermont Harbor 467-4746 St. Clare Catholic 236 S. Beach Blvd. 467-9275 St. John's Catholic Lakeshore Rd. Lakeshore 467-4746 St. Joseph Catholic Pearlinton 533-7968 St. Matthew the Apostle 27074 St. Matthew Church Rd. Pearlinton 255-7720 St. Rose de Lima 301 S. Necaise Bay St. Louis 467-7347	CHURCH OF CHRIST Church of Christ Bay St. Louis 467-3645 CHURCH OF GOD Church of God Bay St. Louis 467-0380 EPISCOPAL Christ Episcopal 912 S. Beach Blvd. 467-7757 St. Thomas Episcopal 5303 Diamondhead Cr. 255-9213 Trinity Episcopal Church St. Pass Christian	LUTHERAN Grace Lutheran Church - ELCA 18221 Pineville Rd. 864-4248 Lutheran Church of the Pines 309 Hwy 90 Waveland 467-6771 METHODIST Clermont Harbor United Methodist Clermont Blvd. 533-7716 Diamondhead United Methodist Diamondhead Community Center 255-6886 First United Methodist 526 E. Second St. Pass Christian Greater Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal 18223 3rd St. W. Ave. 533-9876 Holiness Church United Methodist Hwy 90 & First St. Pass Christian	St. Mark's African Methodist Episcopal 741 Dufour Road Waveland 864-4739 St. Roch United Methodist Church 301 Herlihy Street Waveland Valena C. Jones United Methodist 248 Sycamore St. 467-9629 Waveland United Methodist Vacation Ln. Waveland 467-6931 MORMON Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints McLaurin Ave. Waveland 467-5005 NON-DENOMINATIONAL Christ Family Worship Center Pearlinton Community Center 533-5527 Church of the Lord Jesus Christ 6166 W. Kemper Bayside Park Dominion Christian Fellowship 819 Central Avenue 467-6140 Harvest Time Church 9113 Kila-Delisle Rd. 255-2097 Power House of Deliverance 264 1/2 Washington Ave. 466-3841 Word of Faith Christian Fellowship 1399 Old Spanish Trail 467-4488 PENTECOSTAL First United Pentecostal Old Spanish Trail Waveland 467-3575 PRESBYTERIAN Diamondhead Community Diamondhead 255-5556 First Presbyterian (USA) 114 Ulman Ave. 467-3921 255-4076 Triumph The Church and Kingdom of God and Christ 458 Eastbrook St. Bay St. Louis 466-4851
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST Gulf Coast Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship Diamondhead Community Center Diamondhead 863-5928 Church listings are included in the above for the following areas: BAY ST. LOUIS • BAYSIDE PARK CLERMONT HARBOR • DIAMONDDHEAD KILA • LAKESHORE • PASS CHRISTIAN PEARLINGTON • PERKINSON STANDARD • WAVELAND If your church is not listed and is in one of the above areas, please send the church name, denomination, address and telephone number to: The Sea Coast Echo, P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009, or call 467-5473 with the information.	Paints & Varnishes Hundreds of Colors Available Experienced Staff to Help You Find Your Match! HUBBARD'S 467-4494 • HRS. M-S 8-5 Bay Carpet & Interiors "The Carpet Experts" • We Make House Calls 467-5000 304-D Chocoma Village, Waveland, MS (Facing Delchamps) Television Electronics Furniture Jewelry Appliances Computers BABER'S LEASING Michael Parker LAKE SHORE BODY SHOP LOWER BAY RD. • LAKESHORE, MS. (1 1/2 Miles from Hwy. 90) 467-1535 LELAND R. KENDRICK, M.D. FAMILY MEDICINE Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 1903 WAVELAND AVE. • WAVELAND 467-5716 THE PEOPLES BANK "We People Bank" Bay St. Louis 467-9296 Diamondhead 255-4450 Pass Christian 867-2269 The Mini Locations from Diamondhead to Ocean Springs	McDonald's 322 HWY. 90 • WAVELAND • 467-1294 Dub Herring Chrysler 809 Hwy. 43 S. • 799-3110 1-800-796-5337 Piquette "THAT'S A GOOD CHRYSLER, PAW PAW!" JIM BLOUNT'S Floor Covering CARPET • VINYL • TILE • WOOD CARPET AS LOW AS \$10.95 INSTALLED! INCLUDING 1/2 PAD 310 COLEMAN • WAVELAND • 466-3444 This Space Available To Advertise Call 467-5474 D&K Quick Stops & Deli's #1 SPUR Hwy. 603, Kila, MS • 255-2212 #2 CHEVROLET Hwy. 603, Waveland, MS • 466-4337 #4 CHEVROLET Hwy. 90 & Blue Meadow, Bay St. Louis, MS • 467-2482 CHICKEN SPECIALS: 10-Pc. Box Only \$5.49! SAM'S AIR CONDITIONING 467-0949 LICENSED ELECTRICIAN All Work Guaranteed UNION PLANTERS BANK Telephone: (601) 467-9282 Facsimile: (601) 467-3135 Post Office Box 2219 827 Highway 90 Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2219 Worship With Your Family This Week! This Space Available To Advertise Call 467-5474 HENLEY TIMBER COMPANY We would like to buy your logs, poles, pulpwood and hardwood timber. Small tracts or large tracts. Call day or night 255-3082 The Sea Coast Echo Since 1892 "We Cover the County" To Subscribe Call 467-5473	DAIRY QUEEN OF WAVELAND "We're on the way to where you're going!" The Stitch Niche 104 Market Street Pass Christian, Mississippi 452-3100 W.A. McDonald & Sons SERVING THE COAST FOR 87 YEARS ACE HARDWARE FREE DELIVERY Bay St. Louis 467-5442 Coast Electric Power Association Farm Bureau Insurance Companies Membership's Only 2 Billion Dollar Life Insurance Company LIFE • FIRE • AUTO • GENERAL LIABILITY TEDDY BILBO AGENCY MANAGER Office: 255-1133 P.O. Box 175 Home: 467-4733 Kila, MS 39556 HODA CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC 4348 GEX RD. • SUITE B DIAMONDDHEAD, MS 255-2228 Worship With Your Family This Week!

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24 Auctions

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30 Lost & Found

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36 Special Notices

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53 Schools & Instructions

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PRE-SCHOOL advanced 3 & 4 year olds. 8-12, Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Transportation to babysitter at noon is provided. Call 467-5626.

56 Services Offered

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66 Child Care

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NEED TRUCK DRIVER WITH CDL License. Call 255-5727.

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83 Items For Sale

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84 Furniture

SOFA AND LOVE SEAT FOR SALE. Fair condition, \$200. Call 466-0988 after 7p.m.

85 Building Materials

CERAMIC TILE: InterCeramic, Summitville, DAL, KPT, Laufen. 500,000 sq.ft. in stock. Attention: Builders, Floormen, special prices, 88¢ sq.ft. to \$1.80 sq.ft. 1-800-233-6702. FLOOR STORE, Slidell, 1725 Gause Blvd. off I-10, next to Smith & Jones, Bulldozer.

METAL ROOFING/SIDING - 6 colors galv. to 24ft. length. 38" wide-28 ga. galv. 99¢ ft. Colors, \$1.19 ft. V-crimp & conug. 64¢ ft. Ridge cap, rake & corner, purlins \$1.00 ft. Roofing/Siding from \$14.90 sq. Warehouse Sales, Slidell, LA Exit 263 I-10. 800-842-6646.

TREATED LUMBER, POST, PILINGS, timbers. 8x6x18, \$90 each; treated .80, 2x8, 2x10, 2x12, discount prices; 1x4, 1x6, 1x8, discount prices; post as low as \$2.00 per lineal ft. Old Egg Farm, Gulfport. 601-831-2453.

90 Pets

BASSET HOUND PUPPIES: PURE-BRED, registered, long-eared, short legs, tri-color. Vet checked, shots. 1-334-645-2142.

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GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES, \$150 w/papers. 466-9581.

TACK SALE TUES., APRIL 1, 7pm. Everything for horses from saddles to soap. Ladner's Regal Auction, Firetower Road, Hancock County. 255-1947 for info.

93 Yard Sale

DEADLINES FOR YARD, GARAGE SALES advertisements appearing in THURSDAY'S Editions of THE SEA COAST ECHO is 5 p.m. TUESDAY'S.

EVERYDAY IS SALE DAY AT YOUR Bay St. Louis Goodwill Store, Bay Mall Shopping Center, Dunbar & Highway 90. Mon. thru Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 467-7277.

SUN, MARCH 30, 9am-11, 205 Ullman Ave. Fishing, tools, furniture, bric-brac. NO EARLY BIRDS.

93 Yard Sale

MOVING SALE: DAYBED W/TRUNDLE, \$150; Freezer, \$100; Glass dinette set, \$60; Dresser w/hutch, chest & headboard, \$150; Kitchen cabinet, \$50; Microwave, \$50; Metal glider, \$25; 2 blue velvet rockers, \$60 ea.. 467-2925

96 Wanted To Buy

WANTED: 10 - 100 ACRES, HIGH, HILLY, hardwoods, water, 255-5452.

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, TOOLS, dolls, furniture. One piece or house full. Call 467-2628 days.

QUICK CASH FOR ALMOST ANYTHING before yard sale hassel, moving or cleaning out. We buy households, furniture, antique, tools, toys, bric-brac, etc. Piece or house full. No answer leave message. 467-4857.

WANT TO BUY! LOTS WITH well & septic. Call Pete 467-9797.

WE BUY (OLD) WATCHES, wrist, & pocket, rings, gold, estate pieces \$ cash. Bayou Jewelers. 466-0425.

126 Campers/Motorhomes

MOTOR HOME: RUNS, AIR, AS IS, \$3,000. Plus, Sears System 40 weight set \$300. 467-5429.

127 RV Sites

BAYOU TALLA R.V. PARK: NOW OPEN! A new R.V. Park on 603 three miles north of I-10 Kiln, MS. We are now open and accepting campers. 30 and 50 amp full service sites available. Hard surfaced streets, town water, bath house and coin operated laundry. Telephone hook up to each site. Cable T.V. will be offered. Reasonable daily, weekly, or monthly rates available. Recreation area on Bayou Talla, all sites well drained. Call 255-8001.

128 Boats & Motors

20' LONE STAR OPEN CABIN Flotation Hull, VHF radio, 1156 HP Evinrude, am/fm radio, tape player, Hummingbird depth finder, galvanized trailer, spare wheel & tire. Ready to go, \$3,250. 255-7669.

20' NEWTON SKIFF, 1/2 CABIN, Depth Finder, economical. \$13 all day. Crab or shrimp, \$4,500. 533-0152.

128 Boats & Motors

1995 16' DELTA CRAFT CUSTOM Bay Boat, 75HP Yamaha, mint condition, \$9,800. 466-9210.

20' ALL WELD, 8' WIDE, DECKED floor & sides, stand-up steering front, 115 Yamaha, salt water addition, \$4,800. 533-0152.

136 Automobiles

1984 CHEV. CAVALIER SW, AUTO, PS, PB, \$750. 601-463-1383/after 6pm.

1985 LINCOLN TOWNCAR, 75,000 miles, excellent shape, garage kept. Needs new motor. \$1,500/obo. 466-0647.

1993 ESCORT LX WAGON. Excellent condition, AC, auto transmission, radio, tape deck. Sacrifice, \$4,000. 466-4980.

136 Automobiles

1995 NISSAN SENTRA GLE, 4 DOOR, LOW MILES, LOADED, MINT CONDITION. PLEASE CALL 467-8066, LEAVE MESSAGE.

'83 BRONCO, 4-WHEEL DR, AUTO, ac, cruise, fm cassette, great shape, \$3,500. 255-0493.

'83 MAZDA PROTOGE, 5-SP, loaded, \$7,300. Assume note of \$185 w/credit approval. 466-4665, 255-0493, 467-4266.

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CORPORATE ASSISTANT CONTROLLER

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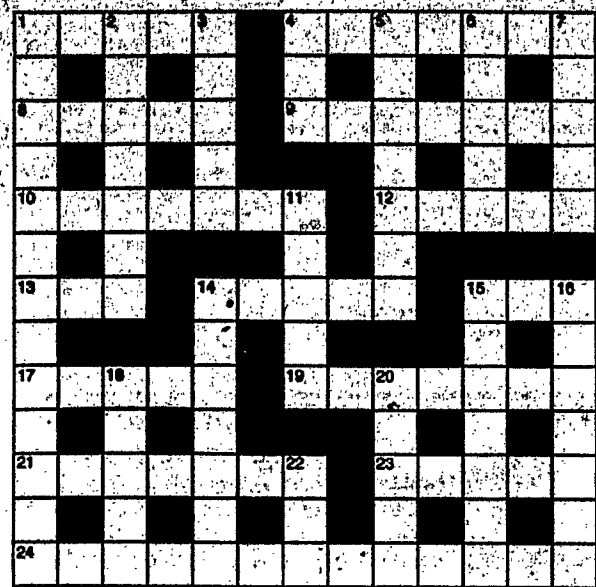
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12B-THE SEA COAST ECHO-SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1997



CLUES ACROSS

1. Stale
4. Scurry
8. Hacienda
9. Scrutin
10. Molten
12. Directs, in a way
13. "___" Capital
14. Flecks
15. Way to apply
17. Group of eight
19. Deviants, in a way
21. Dried out
23. Evolve
24. Called, as in poker

CLUES DOWN

1. Husband and wife
2. Protective coatings
3. Yokel
4. Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity
5. Indians led by Geronimo
6. Leading
7. Woodwinds
11. Golf strokes
14. Valise
15. Agitate
16. Most industrious
18. Estonian city
20. "He ___ protest too much."
22. Father

SOLUTIONS ACROSS

1. Moldy
4. Scamper
8. Ranch
9. Examine
10. Igneous
12. Heads
13. Das
14. Spots
15. Dab
17. Octet
19. Sadists
21. Parched
23. Educate
24. Equaled the bet

SOLUTIONS DOWN

1. Married couple
2. Linings
3. Yahoo
4. SAE
5. Apaches
6. Prima
7. Reeds
11. Shots
14. Satchel
15. Disturb
16. Bustiest
18. Tartu
20. Doeth
22. Dad

Coast Chorale presents collection of folk songs

The Coast Chorale will present the Mississippi Gulf Coast debut of John Rutter's "The Sprig of Thyme," a collection of English, Scottish and Irish folk songs.

The first of two Coast performances will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13 at First Christian Church in Gulfport.

In addition, the chorale will also perform a variety of American folk songs and spirituals. Admission is free.

The Coast Chorale is a 60-member community chorus consisting of singers from as far away as Picayune and Ocean Springs. Choral conductor Joy Mehrtens holds a master's degree in music.

Mehrtens served as choir director and organist in the New Orleans metropolitan area for more than 25 years and was director of music at Holy Name of Jesus Church on Loyola University's campus. Currently, Mehrtens teaches music at Our Lady Academy in Bay St. Louis and is organist at St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian.

As the Coast Chorale prepares for the final concerts of its fourth season, chorale members cannot help but recall the many successes of the past year.

In December, the Coast Chorale represented the state of Mississippi during the Advent Sing

celebration in Vienna, Austria. Viennese audiences were thrilled by an exciting repertoire of both modern and traditional Southern music.

Coast composer and chorale accompanist Jim Ballard wrote two new compositions which the Coast Chorale debuted on the Mississippi Coast and which perfectly suited the quiet reverence of the ancient Viennese cathedrals.

In addition, three chorale members auditioned for and were accepted into the National Community Honor Choir of the national convention of the American Choral Directors' Association.

In March, Judith C. D'Angelo, Pete Smith and Father Ronald Herzog traveled to San Diego to represent the state of Mississippi in this choir consisting of the best community singers in the nation.

The Coast Chorale is now rehearsing for their debut in New York City's Carnegie Hall in November of 1997.

The chorale will perform John Rutter's "Magnificat" under the direction of the composer himself.

For information concerning upcoming concerts, or those interested in joining the Coast Chorale, contact Joy Mehrtens at 452-3539 or Virginia Langen at 255-5827.

2nd Annual Natchez Bluff Blues Fest

Natchez's Second Annual Blues Festival will be April 18-19. The event will kick off Friday night, Apr. 18 with club performances around town at Under-the-Hill-Saloon, Pearl Street Celler, The Corner Bar & The Blue Cat Club.

A total of five bands will be performing in Memorial Park at Main Street, downtown Natchez on Saturday, Apr. 19 from 2-10 p.m. After 10 p.m. Saturday night, the Club Performances pick up again, and the festivities will continue till early Sunday morning to round out the weekend of blues in the oldest city on the Mississippi River.

Scheduled to appear at the outdoor event are Natchez's favorite son, Brint Anderson, Alvin Shelby and The Holy Family Children's Choir, Y. Z. Ealey Band, Stomp Incorporated and Gypsy Blood.

The clubs will feature Sherman Lee Dillon, Caddy Wampus, Gypsy Blood and Maggie Brown.

Other attractions include boiled crawfish, red beans and rice, gumbo and beverages from Budweiser to Coca-Cola, merchandise, crafts, and a fish bowl stocked with prizes, a children's pavilion and a raffle with a week-long Western Caribbean cruise donated by Commodore Cruise Lines and Access Travel as the grand prize.

The hands-on involvement of about 100 volunteers will make the Blues Festival the type of quality event suitable for the whole family.

A portion of the proceeds will contribute to the Memorial Hall Restoration project.

For information, contact Eric Keith Glatzer at Lagonia Plantation, Box 298 E Route 2, Church Hill, MS 392120. (601) 442-2988, fax (601) 442-2988*11.

A portion of the proceeds will contribute to the Memorial Hall Restoration project.

For information, contact Eric Keith Glatzer at Lagonia Plantation, Box 298 E Route 2, Church Hill, MS 392120. (601) 442-2988, fax (601) 442-2988*11.

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Thompson Brothers return to Cajun Crawfish Festival

For the fifth year, popular country music trio, The Thompson Brothers Band, returns to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum's Country Cajun Crawfish Festival. The band, known for their album "Cows on Main Street," are returning at the request of fans who look for their energetic brand of music year after year.

"The response to this band is clearly a grass roots movement on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Thompson Brothers Band has created its own loyal following here at the Crawfish Festival and it just wouldn't be the same without them," said Bill Holmes, executive director of the Coast Coliseum. "They have a sound that combines the raw country energy of Dwight Yoakam and Steve Earle with the harmonies reminiscent of the Everly Brothers."

The Thompson Brothers chose the "Cows on Main Street" as their album title in tribute to their hometown where childhood memories include Main Street traffic stopping for cows that had escaped from the meadows. The extended play album includes everything from original songs to Neil Diamond's "Solitary Man" Thompson Brothers style.

The Thompson Brothers Band joins headliners Jeff Carson and Lee Roy Parnell. Neal

McCoy and Sammy Kershaw as country music takes center stage at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum. The festival, which will take place rain or shine, features nonstop country and Cajun music throughout the run of the event.

The festival returns to the front lawn of the Mississippi Coast Coliseum Friday-Sunday, April 18-19. The festival combines country and Cajun music with carnival rides, vendor booths, contests, including the "Overexposure" bikini contest and fashion show and over 15,000 pounds of large, hot, spicy crawfish and other delectable food offerings.

Also featuring is the crowd-pleasing Winn-Dixie Festival of Foods inside the arena with over 100 Winn-Dixie food vendors offering attendees free samples and coupons.

Two new ticket options debut at the festival this year. They are a \$13 three-day pass (up to \$4 savings) and Golden Circle outdoor seating of \$15 for reserved seats. Both ticket options are now on sale at the Coliseum Box office and all usual TicketMaster locations or charge by phone at 800-488-5252. Regular tickets can be purchased at the gate \$5 or \$6 for adults depending on the time of day, \$2 for children 6-12, and under 6 get in free.

Momix presented by NOBA

The New Orleans Ballet Association invites you to come enter a world of illusion where bodies are in a constant state of transformation with Momix. **Passion**, Friday, April 4, 8:00 p.m. **Baseball**, Saturday, April 5, 7:30 p.m. at the Mahalia Jackson Theater of the Performing Arts.

Tickets are \$20-\$60, student and group discounts available. A 50-minute intermission.

performance for students with excerpts from the evening shows will be held Friday, April 4, 10 a.m. Tickets are \$3 for students. For tickets and information, call the ballet association at 504-582-6666. Tickets are available at 1000 Poydras Street, Suite 1900, New Orleans, LA 70112. Tickets are \$20-\$60, student and group discounts available. A 50-minute intermission.

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